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Monday . March 3, 1980
Ottawa, Canada
Vol. 13, No. 5
Single copy 30 cents

The Canadian INDIA TIMES

(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)

Dhawan case to be withdrawn

New Delhi, Feb. 27 (UNI) - The Central Bureau of Investigation has sought leave of special judge D C Aggarwal to withdraw a criminal conspiracy case filed against R K Dhawan, former additional private secretary to Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and nine others.

In its application, the CBI said that investigation had yielded no evidence in support of the case.

The others involved are N K Singh, former special assistant to Union commerce minister, L L Dhawan, former private secretary to the President of India, P C Sethi, former union minister, Yashpal Kapoor, a member of parliament, Suresh Vasudeva, M R. Dhawan, K L Shroff, Sudhir Sareen and K L Bhatia.

They were accused of being party to a criminal conspiracy to obtain undue pecuniary advantages by corrupt or illegal means or by otherwise abusing the official position of the public servants concerned, either for themselves or for others in respect of the funds of the then (ruling) Congress party.

Mr. Dhawan was accused of diverting large amounts of money from the party's funds as investments in a number of commercial enterprises and other business concerns in which Mr. Dhawan or his family members had "interest and financial links."

It was alleged that Yashpal Kapoor, "was running a bank account in the name of the central campaign committee of the then ruling Congress party and he had, acting in close concert with R K Dhawan, withdrawn large sums of money from this account and diverted them to bogus firms which were floated by him, R K Dhawan and others for salting away funds for their individual use."

Against P C Sethi it was alleged that "he was operating an account in the name of the Central Election Committee of the Congress party and had withdrawn large sums of money totalling over three crores which, subsequently were falsely shown as distributed."

It was further alleged that the monies mentioned above had gone into the hands of "benamidars" who were holding the money on behalf of R K Dhawan, Yashpal Kapoor and P C Sethi and their close associates.

It is nearly a year since the former Janata government decided that the cases should be withdrawn.

Despite this decision, taken at the highest level, neither the Janata government nor its successor Lok Dal government implemented it.

Rich in uranium

New Delhi, Feb. 29 (UNI) - The current uranium resources within the country are capable of supporting a first stage nuclear power programme of about 8,000 MW installed capacity of uranium reactors.

Of the 34,000 tonnes uranium resouces (U 308) in the country 15,000 tonnes are considered economically exploitable at current international prices.

Estimates of additional resources are placed at 27,000 tonnes of U 308.

Disclosing this, a report of the official working group on energy policy says that it may be possible to support a larger programme of first stage reactors if the exploration programmes yield other viable sources.

The report expressed optimism that with the eventual introduction of fast breeder reactors in the subsequent stages, increased capacity can be supported by even the reserves of uranium.

The most important deposits of uranium ore are located in the Singhbhum region of Bihar. New target areas have recently been identified in the crystallines of Madhya Pradesh and some significant uranium deposits have been discovered. Exploration efforts have revealed uraniferrous zones in the pre-cambrain conglomerates in Rajasthan and structurally-controlled uranium deposits in parts of central India.

India has one of the largest reserves of thorium contained in the monazite deposits along the sea board and in inland places.

The deposits are expected to yield 363,000 tonnes of thorium oxide.

When thorium fuelled reactors are constructed in subsequent stages of the nuclear programme, this resource base can support a very large capacity, for a long time, the report says.

HMT tie-up

New Delhi (IBS) - The Hindustan Machine Tools is setting up a new unit at Aurangabad in collaboration with the German Democratic Republic to manufacture machinery to modernize the dairy industry.

The plan would cost about $5 million, and employ some 360 persons. Under the contract, HMT has acquired the contract to manufacture nine machines produced by the GDR.

World leaders in New Delhi

By George Mathew

New Delhi: A large number of distinguished world leaders visited the capital during the last month to appraise the new government in New Delhi of their country's concern and approach to the crisis in Afghanistan which threatened world peace.

President Carter's Special Envoy, Clark Clifford, had a 75-minute talk with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during which he explained the U.S. stand in the Afghanistan crisis.

Understanding India's grave concern at the US decision to rearm Pakistan, Mr. Clifford made efforts to sell the idea that the arms supply to Pakistan was aimed at strengthening that country against a Soviet thrust from across its border with Afghanistan and that these arms would not be used against India. Further, the supply would be only to a limited extent to meet the specific need, he said.

Greatly unconvinced about the US explanation and in the light of the country's past experience with a similar step which led to a measure of adventurasim, India told the special US envoy that the supply of arms to Pakistan at present would jeopardise the present efforts to normalisation of relations with that country as set forth in the Simla agreement. India's stand was the deescalation of the situation in the region was the need of the hour to help enable Soviet troop withdrawal and not the dressing up of Pakistan with a threatening posture.

On the other hand India and France shared identical views on the Afghanistan situation. The French President, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, who was on an official visit to India, disapproved any intervention in the Asian continent by others which 'tends to take the place of legitimate rights of the peoples to have their independence respected and to choose their own destiny."

Giscard d'Estaing's visit was the first ever by an head of the state of France to this country.

In a joint communique issued at the end of his 4-day visit, both India and France expressed concern at the intensification of the arms race in all its aspects, notably that of the most heavily armed powers, and called for a realistic approach to disarmament recognising the right of all countries to security as well as of regional conditions. "The task of disarmament cannot remain the prerogative of some powers alone", the communique said.

The leaders of the two countries agreed on the need to increase consultations between each other at all levels in order to keep each other informed of their respective viewpoints and to determine through such consultations the contribution the two countries could make to peace and international co-operation. The leaders agreed to hold periodic consultations.

Andrew Peacock, Australian foreign minister, who was here on a three-day visit to meet the Indian leaders, said that India and Pakistan must have a greater degree of cohesion in light of happenings in Afghanistan.

In reply to a question he said he did not bring any specific proposal.

Dr. Bruno Kreisby, federal chancellor of Austria, who was here on a five-day visit had discussions with the Prime Minister and the external affairs minister. He also attended the UNIDO conference which was being held in New Delhi.

The Bangladesh President, Mr. Zia-ur-Rehman, who was on an official visit to the country, had discussions with the President and the Prime Minister on matters of mutual interest including the Afghanistan crisis.

The UN Secretary General, Dr. Kirt Waldheim, who was here for the inaugural function of the UNIDO Conference also met the Prime Minister and had discussions on the Afghanistan crisis.

A 5-man Indian Delegation led by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. R.D. Sathe, left for Pakistan for official level talks with that country for normalisation of relations.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, is expected here shortly to appraise India of the Afghanistan situation in Soviet perspective.

Kanti Desai indicted

New Delhi, Feb. 29 (UNI) - The one-man Vaidialingam Commission has indicted Kantilal, son of former prime minister Morarji Desai for having functioned as an extra-constitutional authority and pressurised governmental machinery to his advantage.

The Commission has held that his wife, Mrs. Padma Desai, also utilised her position as the dauhter-in-law of the prime minister and the special authority enjoyed by her husband for pressurising income-tax authorities for a favourable assessment of her tax dues.

The Commission, set up by the Morarji Desai ministry to go into the doings of the relatives of both Mr. Desai and his then colleague, Charan Singh, has also said that Mrs. Gayatri Devi (wife of Charan Singh) misused her position to inferfere in the administration and to derive pecuniary benefits.

The Commission has suggested a formal inquiry against all the three under the Commissions of Inquiry Act.

The Commission was asked to inquire into the allegations made on the floor of the Rajya Sabha against the relatives of both Mr. Morarji Desai and Mr. Charan Singh in the wake of a resolution adopted by the house demanding an independent probe into them.

N K P Salve, lawyer-member of the Congress-I had made a series of allegations against Kantilal Desai. Several other charges were also made against him by the now Lok Dal leader Raj Narain outside the house. Congress-I member of the Rajya Sabha, Kalpanath Rai was among those who had levelled serious charges against Mr. Charan Singh and his wife, Mrs. Gayatri Devi. In addition, the Commission also examined other memoranda received against them from the public.

The Commission, which held its sittings in camera, submitted its findings to Union Home Minister Zail Singh a few days ago.

Top scientist resigns

New Delhi, Feb. 29 (UNI) - Dr. N. Ganga Prasad Rao, a sorghum breeder of international repute working in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), is understood to have resigned his post in protest against lack of opportunities in the organisation.

Dr. Rao, who is a National Professor and head of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute's (IARI) regional centre at Hyderabad, was not even called for an interview for the post of Deputy Director General of ICAR (crop sciences) held in the second week of January.

Meanwhile, some other senior scientists have also threatened to leave the organisation because of "frustration and lack of opportunities."

There has been considerable resentment among senior scientists of the organisation against the rules and procedures adopted by the Agriculture Service Recruitment Board (ASRB) and ICAR for selection to some of the top posts. Scientists feel that the ASRB and the ICAR are "behaving in an arbitrary way."

In interviews held for the post of Deputy Director General (Education) one of the Assistant Directors-General working in the education division with the requisite qualifications was not even invited to appear.

On to the Himalayas

"Those sublime heights could only be the abode of the gods," wrote Sir Francis Younghusband, adding "...where the pilgrims fain tread in the hallowed footsteps of those who had felt so deeply, cheerfully endurins incredible

hardships from rain, frost, ice and snow in order that in the depth of the Himalayas, their hearts may be purified and they may experience God."

Ennobling sentiments indeed, expressed as they were by a Western writer who was deeply in love with India. But the significance of the Himalayas for India is vastly deeper.

Strangely, the Himalayas, part of our history and tradition, our worship and our devotion for centuries hardly lured the Indian youth.

There were, of course, occasional explorers and surveyors, and a handful of pioneers and intrepid men, such as the famed Pandit Brothers, who crossed the Indian Himalayas over to Tibet. And in similar circumstances was the peak XV discovered in 1852. After a series of calculations by the then chief computer of the Survey of India, Radhanath Sikdar, this Peak was established as the highest mountain and later named after the then Surveyor General of India, Sir George Everest.

At the turn of the century the Himalayas began to draw the attention of mountaineers, predominently British, who were trained in negotiating the rocky, snowy heights in the European Alps. When Trisul (23,360 ft) in the central Himalayas was first climbed by Longstaff in 1907, it was the highest point in the world then reached by anyone. Incidentally, 70 years later, the Indian mountaineers were to set up a somewhat similar record - by skiing more than 8000 ft. down these very Trisul slopes. Historically, Trisul is also the first real "Indian Summit."

With the institution of the Himalayan Club by a group of high-ranking civil and military British officials in New Delhi on February 17, 1928, India began to attract mountaineers from abroad in growing numbers.

More and more attention hereafter began to be paid to the Sikkum and the Nepal Himalayas. With this came the "discovery" of the Sherpas - the hardy, ever-smiling, high-altitude porters - for carrying loads for the "Sahebs". And with that from 1921 onwards, Everest became "the ultimate" goal in global mountaineering circles.

The year 1936 far exceeded any previous year in the amount of activity in the Himalaya. There were expeditions brought by Americans, English, French, Germans, Japanese and Swiss.

For Indians, however, there was little encouragement during the British days. The first known expedition in which Indians participated was in 1942, in charge of two British mountaineer-masters of the Doon School, Holdsworth and John Martyn. They went with three selected students to the Arwas valley glaciers above Badrinath, and set up a camp at the height of 19,000 ft. The first recorded All-India expedition, led this time by an Indian Doon School master, Gurdial Singh, was in 1951. And like the first foreign peak, it also sought the 23,360 foot high summit of Trisul, and was successful, Gurdial Singh being one of those who reached the peak.

The story of mountaineering by the Indians as such really begins from 1953 - British Expedition to Mount Everest led by Joh Hunt. Included in it as an India Sherpa Sirdar and, possibly for the first time, as one of its climbing members as well, was the Tiger of the Snows Tenzing Norgay. His blazing the trail to the highest pinnacle on the earth - Everest - along with Edmund Hillary on May 29, and planting the India ricolour with the British and the Nepalese flags on the 29,028 foot-high summit made deep impact on the Indian mind.

To commemorate this historic event, the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI) was set up in Darjeeling. Nandu Jayal was appointed as its first Principal and Tenzing its Director of field training. "Their personal example", says the chronicle, "showed that the scaling of mountains was not a sport reserved only for the esoteric few and that they could be scaled by any team suitably trained and equipped." The Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research at Rosenlaui extended their help in preparing a scheme for the HMI.

Steadily a cadre of scientifically trained young Indian mountaineers, girls and boys, began to graduate from the HMI with their eager gaze fixed on the Himalayan peaks now within their reach.

Since 1966, when Harish Sarin took over as the President of the Indian Mountaineering Federation (IMF) established to encourage and regulate mountaineering in India as a distinct discipline, the sport made phenomenal progress.

About 400 expeditions (including about 30 all-girls expeditions) have gone to peaks of about 20,000 ft. and above - the highest number for any country for such expeditions. The rate of increase during the last five years is of interest: 27 in 1975; 35 in 1976; 47 in 1977; 59 in 1978 and 62 in 1979.

Twenty-three major expeditions have so far been sponsored by the IMF on its own, 4 of them consisting exclusively of girls, with successful ascents of the Cho Oyu (26,750 ft; Everest (29,028 ft); Nanda Devi (25,615 ft); Nanda Devi East (24,391 ft) and the successful 20,000 foot high traverse along 3-km ridge between them; the virgin peak of Nilkantha (21,640 ft), Annapurna III (24,858 ft); Panchuli (22,650 ft) and Chengabang (22,520 ft.).

[Courtesy: PIB]

Pioneer of the Indian press

James Augustus Hicky, the founder, editor and printer of India's first newspaper, a weekly of two sheets which made its appearance in Calcutta on January 29, 1780, is not mentioned in the Dictionary of National Biography.

We do not know where he was born although we know from his own confession that he was "a free-born British citizen" and we do not know where he died. He is not listed in the Bengal Obituary and even H.E.A. Cotton's Calcutta: Old and New (1907), does not say anything more than that he "ended his Indian career in a Jail in Lall Bazar."

The last we hear from him is his letter dated 1800 AD included in the Warren Hastings correspondence preserved in the British Museum. It is a petition to the Governor-General, at one time his oppresser, for a job in Calcutta. And yet even those British writers on India who upbraid him with the scurrilities that disfigured the columns of his gazette recognises its editor as a great figure in the history of Indian journalism.

H.E. Busteed gives one whole chapter entitled "Life and Death of the First Indian Newspaper" to Hicky and calls him "pioneer of the Indian press."

Hicky's Gazette appeared at a time when the British press was bravely asserting its freedom invoking the great words in Milton's Arcopagitica (1644) - "Give me the liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties." This spirit reappeared in the England of the 1760's when John Wilkes quoted in his North Briton the words of Dryden "Freedom is the English subject's prerogative."

But that prerogative was denied to the English subject in India. A free press would be a danger to a colonial administration precariously controlled by North's Regulating Act of 1773. There was rancour between individuals in the Supreme Council in Calcutta. There were many things to hide from each other and from the public in Calcutta and London.

When Hicky's paper made its appearance in Calcutta as Bengal Gazettee or Calcutta General Advertiser and described itself on the front-page as "A Weekly Political and Commercial Paper Open to All Parties but influenced by None", Fort William took fright. Before long Hastings discovered that Hicky's savage gibes were directed against him and his party in the Council and never against Philip Francis.

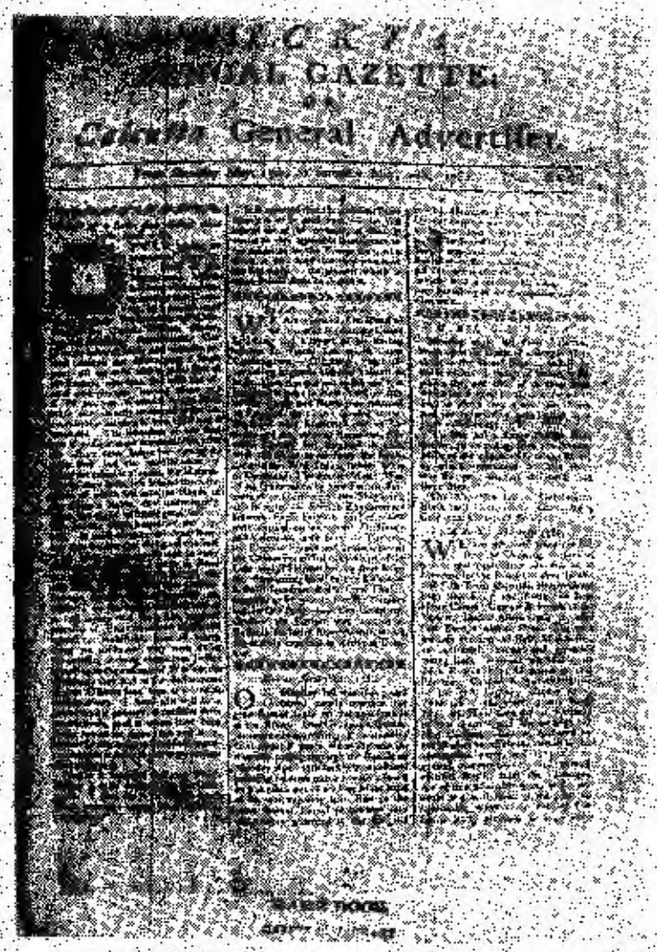
Twelve columns of Hicky's Gazette, and it printed three columns on each page, were full of lampoons and pasquinades directed against the highest dignitaries of the Company's Government and their bantering levity would often verge on prurience.

In June 1781 Hastings instructed Impey to arrest Hicky who was at once confronted by a crowd of some armed men including Europeans, sepoys and peons. Hicky bravely refused to be just physically dragged and asked for the warrant of arrest. Since the court had already adjourned he was taken a prisoner and the next day the Supreme Court asked him to answer two indictments made against him by the Governor-General. He was sent back to jail when he failed to pay Rs 80,000 for his bail.

The following year Hicky was sentenced to a year's imprisonment and a fine of Rs 2,000 and on the second indictment Impey ordered him to pay Rs. 5,000 as damages to Hastings who forgave him the amount out of compunction.

The Gazette survived its editor's imprisonment but not for long. It ceased when the types were seized by an order issued in March 1782. Thus ended India's first newspaper and first exponent of a free press.

Hicky fought bravely and his paper could be stopped only when his types were seized. His paper asserted liberty of expression even when he was in jail and was unable to take care of his wife and children.



Planning Commissi members

New Delhi (IBS) - All members of the Planning Commission have resigned to pave the way for a reconstitution of the body under Mrs. Indira Gandhi's new government.

The out-going Commission had been constituted in 1977 by the then Morarji Desai government. The term of its members is normally five years, but each member of the out-going body has spent only three years in office.

Multinati no harm

New Delhi (IBS) - M. Hidayatullah, Vice President of India, favoured the admission of some multi-nationals into India to enlarge its world markets and said that continued protectionist policies would only result in a deleterious effect on the incentive to improve the countries industries.

At the 1980 World Marketing Congress, he said our prosperity is bound to foreign markets and the more we shut out foreign competition, the more we will be shut out ourselves - enlargement of the world markets would mean admitting some transnationals and

Mother Tere honoured

Calcutta, Feb. 19 (UNI) - Mother Teresa and Satyajit Ray were conferred honorary degrees of Doctors of Literature by the Jadavpur University at its special convocation here.

Mother Teresa, in her brief address, urged the young recipients of degrees to strive for establishing lasting peace in "the world of god". She asked them to become the instruments of love to fight against injustice and dispar-

Mob fury

Patna, Feb. 19 (UNI) - An armed mob, in a retaliatory attack on Dohia village (Gaya district), looted property and assaulted women and children.

Some women were criminally assaulted and no woman was spared the mob's fury. The attackers could get at old men, but younger men escaped their wrath as they were not in the village.

The mob was said to be avenging neighbouring Parasbigha village which was a victim of senseless violence 13th night.

The attack on Dohia village which started at nearly nine a.m. continued for nearly two hours, during which time the entire property of fifteen families belonging to a particular upper caste was looted, houses damaged and nearly thirty women, children and old men injured.

The mob had taken advantage of the absence of menfolk who had been either detained in connection with the Parasbigha incident or had fled from fear of being arrested.

A group of Patna journalists, on their way from Jahanabad to Parasbigha, saw a cluster of some twenty-five women sitting by the roadside. All of them had sustained injuries. Some had bloodstains on their faces and hands and bruises on different parts of the body. Two boys were lying on a cot.

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All members had actually expressed their respective desires to quit soon after the Congress-I returned to the Centre. Deputy Chairman D.T. Lakdawala resigned a few days earlier. He had sought an interview with Mrs. Gandhi, but received no response.

The Rolling Plan concept has also gone with the old Commission. Mrs. Gandhi can now go ahead with her own plans for the economy.

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Hidyatullah said that the distrust of multinationals had resulted in organisations like IBM and Coca Cola leaving the country. Multinationals had better equipment and resources and could provide better returns for money spent, he claimed.

Keeping multinationals out had resulted in lack of competition by manufacturers here, he stated. The local makers turned out any inferior produce they wanted to and we had to pay fancy prices for the inferior article - the chief feature here is the motor car and vehicle industry, he stated.

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Satyajit Ray said the Mother's "dedication and love for mankind have made her achievements greater than any of us."

He also recalled his first association with the cinema, and said in the early days film-making had a stigma attached to it. He urged the university authorities to include the study of cinema in its curriculum.

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An elderly woman, Girmati Devi, with blood stains on her wrinkled face, said that nothing had been left in any house in the village.

Mrs. Manju Kumari, a young woman, who gave birth to a child recently, said that an attempt was made to molest her and when she resisted she was stripped.

Mrs. Ramsekhi Devi said that her husband Lala Prasad and son Ajit Sharma were arrested by the police on false pretext. This morning the mob looted her entire property and also tried to take her young unmarried girl with them. At this she fell on her daughter to protect her. The mob beat her with lathis and she got several cuts on her hand. A few children with the women were cying from hunger.

District police officers at Parasbigha and at the police headquarters in Patna confirmed the mob attack on the village, but gave no details of the incident.

GOOCH, BOTHAM LIFT TROPHY

New Delhi (IBS) - England's pair of Graham Gooch and Ian Botham won the first ever Double Wicket Cricket tournament in this country, and the Murphy silver trophy along with Rs 15,000 in cash ($2,500).

Kapil Dev and Sandip Patil of India were runners up in the tourney, and secured the prize of $1,500, while substitute fielder Gulam Parkar won the $300 prize for best fielder.

Assembly dissolution protested

New Delhi, Feb. 19 - The splintered opponents of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi yesterday decried her dissolution of nine state governments as autocratic and called for a united front to challenge her candidates in forthcoming state elections.

By dismissing the state governments controlled by her political rivals, Mrs. Gandhi made a frontal attack on her enemies, removing them, at least temporarily, from their last strongholds of power, the nine large and populous states.

To justify the move, her Government cited precisely the same rationale that had been used to topple state governments dominated by her loyalists after the Janata Party swept Mrs. Gandhi from power in 1977. At that time the Janata leadership argued that their victory in elections for the national Parliament had shown that the people had withdrawn their support from Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party and that those legislatures where her backers dominated were no longer representative. The Supreme Court accepted this argument.

Now the tables have turned. In last month's parliamentary elections Mrs. Gandhi's party won all but 101 of the 350 seats being contested in the nine states where the state machinery was under control of rival parties.

Mrs. Gandhi's objectives in toppling the parties are clear. For one thing, it is the state legislatures which later this spring will elect one-third of the members of the Upper House and although its vetoes can be easily overridden by Mrs. Gandhi's powerful majority in the all-important Lower House, she would nevertheless gain support at the centre if her party captured more state houses.

Equally important has been the strategic determination of her party that elections as soon as possible would best sustain the momentum of her national victory. Her advisers also believe that by forcing the issue now, they are taking advantage of the enmity that continues to divide the fragmented opposition which until last summer had held together as the Janata Party.

Finally, there is also the attraction of extending power in accordance with the prevailing political culture.

The attacks on Mrs. Gandhi's action against the state jurisdictions charged her Government with being autocratic, anti-democratic and dictatorial.

[New York Times]

Taj was repaired

Calcutta, (UNI) - The Taj Mahal was once repaired 167 years ago, according to historical documents on display at the archives exhibition here.

The records reveal that a committee was appointed on February 17, 1810 for the care and preservation of the Taj Mahal. General letters from the court of directors (judicial) of February 27, 1813, show that Rs 83,500 was sanctioned for the repair of the Taj Mahal and Akbar's Mausoleum at Sikandra.

The nature of damage to the Taj is not known.

The documents also reveal that the famous Konarak temple or the Black Pagoda developed an "injury" in 1838. The Raja of Khurdah made a complaint through Mr. J. Prinsep, secretary to the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, on August 18, 1818, to the Government of Bengal.

The oldest record displayed at the exhibition is on the "1770 famine" in which "lakhs of people perished while many were forced to sell their bullocks to support themselves and, in many villages which contained 100 inhabitants, not more than ten or twenty survived."

Wisecracks of Muhamad Ali

Bombay, (UNI) - "Am not as dumb as I look, try me out in the ring", said Muhamad Ali at a press conference here.

Here are some examples of his wit.

"Am not an actor in the Hollywood style, I am an actor of my style. I don't think I will act in any more movies except the two that I have already acted in."

"If I hit your wrestler (Dara Singh) all will be over, he is the greatest in India, I am the greatest in the world."

"There is no question of my conceding that I am conceited, I am convinced about it."

"I test my speed every night. I switch the lights off in my bedroom and before it is dark I am in my bed."

"This is Jimmy Ellis with whom I fight tomorrow. Have a close look at him as you may not recognise him tomorrow after the fight."

"In India someone presented my wife with saris and she insists on wearing them. Just before coming here I had spent 3,000 dollars on new dresses for her, all that will have to be donated now."

Oil bill seven billion dollars

New Delhi (IBS) - While India has almost tied up its import requirements of over 16 million tonnes of crude oil for 1980, the petroleum product imports will cost the nation some 75per cent of the total export earnings, say authoritative sources.

The revised oil economy states that the country will import over 16 million tonnes of crude oil and six million tonnes of petroleum, including high-speed diesel oil, kerosene oil and fuel oil. It was earlier proposed to import 18 million tonnes of crude and four million tonnes of products.

Iraq had promised to supply two million tonnes of crude, and this has made up for the initial shortfall - Iraq had earlier promised to supply just four million tonnes of crude.

With the further hike in crude prices announced by India's suppliers, over the past one month, the bill for the import of crude is expected to reach $7,000 million, against the total import bill for the same amount worked out for the year earlier. The additional burden on the nation would be for the import of crude and additional products, worked out at $2000 million as against $1,500 million for the entire period 1980-81.

Crude import is already tied up to the tune of 6 million tonnes from Iraq, 2.6 million tonnes from Iran, 2.5 million tonnes from Saudi Arabia, 1.5 million tonnes from the USSR, 1.5 million tonnes from the UAE and 0.5 million tonnes from Nigeria.

Indigenous crude products are expected to touch 14.5 million tonnes, including 11.5 million tonnes by the Oil & Natural Gas Commission and three million by Oil India Limited.

Imported crudes have an average price of 22 dollars a barrel last year, while OPEC nations had set a ceiling of 23.50 dollars a barrel against a base price of 18 dollars a barrel.

Oil in Arunachal

Itanagar, Feb. 29 (UNI) - A number of oil and gas seepages have been discovered in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh.

A spokesman of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) told UNI that the seepages had been reported in the Namchi area and off Tissa, south of Kanubari.

The GSI had also discovered oilbearing beds in the Pasighat area of Siang district, the Miao-Vijayanagar road section and other nearby places.

The spokesman said the Oil India Limited head recently struck oil in the Kharsang area and preliminary investigations showed that the Mana-Bum ranges in Miand region held vast oil reserves.

He said though no concrete information on the occurrence of gold in Arunachal was immediately available, some old records indicated gold panning in the sands of Buridihing river. The GSI was conducting an extensive survey to discover gold and other mineral reserves in the Union Territory.

He indicated that deposits of marble had already been identified in Dapu, Lipushi and Mechuka areas in the upper Siyom valley and a few occurrences of silica and marble deposits had been reported from Lohit district.

Coal-bearing zones had been located in Noachi-Namphuk and Miao-Bum areas. The Namchik-Namphuk coalfields had an estimated reserve of about 14 million tonnes while the Miao-Bum coal-fields had a reserve of about six million tonnes.

Significant deposits of high-grade dolomite had been found in Kameng and Subansiri districts.

About 15 sulphide occurrences containing pyrite, pyrhotite and chalcopyrite had also been discovered.

Bill to repeal special courts

New Delhi, Feb. 29 (UNI) - A bill to repeal the Special Courts Act was introduced in the Lok Sabha by Mr. K T. Kosalram, Congress (I) member from Tamil Nadu.

The memorandum attached to the bill said that after the judgement of the Delhi High Court that the Shah Commission had exceeded its own jurisdiction, these courts had no reason to function and should therefore, be scrapped.

The Special Courts, set up in June last year to conduct a speedy trial of persons who once held high office, created a heated controversy on the powers of the courts. In July Mrs. Gandhi challenged the jurisdiction of these courts in the Calcutta High Court. The controversy dragged on till the Delhi High Court declared them unconstitutional in January this year.

THE CANADIAN INDIA TIMES

(Published on the first and third Thursday of every month)

561 DALHOUSIE ST., OTTAWA, CANADA, K1N 7C3

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Canada - $12.00 U.S.A. - $13.00

LEADERSHIP

Despite the fact that there are about 300,000 people of Canada who originated in the subcontinent of India, very often when it comes to fighting for the rights of visible minorities in the country, people of West Indian and Chinese origins assume leadership roles. Most of these Indo-Canadians are well educated and many are even wealthy. And yet they seem to be shunning any leadership role that could easily be theirs.

Two recent examples might be cited. The Chinese Canadians are protesting with vigour a CTV program that portrayed foreign students usurping the "rightful" place of Canadian students for higher education. A few years ago it was a similar CTV program that maligned the Indo-Canadians and popularised the imported British term "Paki". Not a single Indo-Canadian protested. Even the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India did nothing.

Recently, as reported elsewhere, a conference in Toronto is making some headlines since it invited people with racist views to participate. Again an opportunity to show some leadership on the part of the Indo-Canadians has been ignored.

It seems Indo-Canadians are good at fighting each other rather than uniting for a common cause or for the common good. To survive as a community, much less to thrive, in the longer run we need to develop an awareness of what is happening in our society and show the courage and the conviction to stand up and be counted.

It is a pity that many of our organizations seem to have backbones as strong as bananas. We do hope the time will come when Indo-Canadians will act fearlessly and fight courageously for their rights.

Exodus from UAE

New Delhi (IBS) - Thousands of Indians in the United Arab Emirates could be in trouble once that region implements its new labour law. A two-man team from India is heading that way to talk things over with that government.

If the law is implemented, thousands of Indians settled there, mainly Keralites, will have to return home en masse. There are about 250,000 Indians in the UAE, of which several thousands are termed "illegal residents". The UAE consists of seven sheikhdoms, and has a population of 860,000. Keralites alone number more than 100,00

Meanwhile, it seems that panic has gripped Kerala at the prospects of the new law. This small, south-west coastal State is literally fed by Gulf money which has been the main source for the improved economy there. But remittances home from the Gulf region have fallen by as much as 35 per cent over the last few months. Even on the marriage front here is considerable gloom - as many as 100 proposed link-ups have been postponed.

New Delhi (IBS) - With the new immigration law around the corner in the United Arab Emirates, Indians illegally there have been pushed into an exodus panic and it is estimated than average of 1,000 are leaving the area each day, by air or sea.

Many illegal Indian immigrants, mostly Keralites, are also going over to Bahrain to try completing travel documents and other formalities so that they can return to the UAE. Others have gone underground in the hope that the rules may soon be relaxed, as they were in 1977. But UAE immigration officials say this is a vain hope.

About 60 illegal immigrants are in the Sharjah central jail. They will be flown out in a few days with the help of the Indian Association. Another 39 have appealed to the Association to help them out with funds so that they may return to India. Several thousand more are flocking over to the Association office to seek guidance and help.

A special office has in fact been opened to deal with immigrants' problems as the new law comes closer.

Meanwhile, UAE immigration teams are conducting spot raids on various schools, market places and other business areas in an attempt to identify and root out illegal hangers on. Several arrests have been made during these raids.

India's glorious past ...2

By - Surludar Nath Gupta, St. Andrews West, Ontario

Author of British-the magnificient Exploiters of India.

INDIAN ECONOMY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN 17th AND 18th CENTURIES

CONTINUED FROM FEBRUARY 18, 1980 issue.

The shipping industry of India was also as old as her history. It could not be otherwise considering the geographical position of India. As late as 1811, F. Baltazar Solvyns, a Frenchman, recorded the following: "In ancient times, the Indians excelled in the art of constructing vessels, and the **present Hindus can in this respect still offer models to Europe** -- so much so that the **English, attentive to everything which relates to naval architecture, have borrowed from the Hindus many improvements** which they have adapted with success to their own shipping... The Indian vessels unite elegance and utility, and **are models of fine workmanship.**"

Lieu. Col. A. Walker wrote in 1811:

"It is calculated that every ship in the navy of Great Britain is renewed every twelve years. It is well known that teak-wood built ships last fifty years and upwards. **Many ships, Bombay-built, after running fourteen or fifteen years have been brought into the navy and were considered as strong as ever.** The **Sir Edward Hughes** performed, I believe, eight voyages as an Indiaman before she was purchased for the Navy. **No Europe-built Indiaman is capable of going more than** six voyages with safety."

SHIPS

Ships built at Bombay were not only superior to those built elsewhere in point of durability but also inexpensive. Walker observed: "Ships built at bombay also are executed by one-fourth cheaper than in the docks of England renewed every twelve years, the expense is quadruple. In Bengal, ... excellent ships may be constructed, and the number may be increased to a much greater extent than the above estimate."

No wonder then that "the Sultan of Constantinople found it cheaper to have his vessels built there than in Alexandria; even the (British) East India Company had many of its ships built in Bengal docks."

Iron and steel were also price industries of India. During the Mughal era several iron mines were being worked producing thousands of maunds (a maund approximately equal to 82 pounds) of iron. Even as late as 1842, when the industries of India, due to British policy, were well on their way to destruction, Captain J. Campbell, Assistant Surveyor General of Madras Establishment, wrote in his paper 'Manufacture of bar iron in Southern India', "From what I have seen of Indian iron, I **consider the worst I have ever seen to be as good as the best English iron.**" Campbell compared "the long established, cheap, and simple mode of manufacture" of India with "the operose methods of the English manufacture, which require much capital, costly building, and a considerable trade to make them profitable." Campbell then described these points in detail. He compared the quality of an inch bar of Indian iron, which "will bear a dozen blows of a heavy sledge hammer before it will break" with "the English red short iron snapping off like a carrot when bent."

QUALITY

Captain Presgrave of the Sagar Mint (an officer very capable of judging with regard to quality of the iron) is quoted by Major James Franklin (circa 1829) in his paper as saying that **Indian bar iron was of "most excellent quality" which "can not be surpassed by the best Swedish iron"** -- the best in Europe at that time. Franklin questioned "whether any other furnace would compete with" the Indian furance. It was only in 1825 that a British manufacturer "took out a patent for converting iron into steel"; before that England was entirely dependent on imports. In 1794, Dr. Scott (referred hereafter), sent to the president of the London Royal Society a specimen of a kind of steel, called **wootz** (or butt) which "appears to admit of a harder temper than anything we are acquainted with". The sample went through a thorough examination and analysis by several experts in England. One such expert was an "ingenious artist", Mr. Stodart, probably "the same Mr. Stodart who many years later assisted Faraday in preparing and investigating a large number of steel alloys". According to him, Indian wootz steel "promises to be of importance to the manufacturers of" Britain and is "excellently adapted for the purpose of fine cutlery, and particularly for all edge instruments used for surgical purposes." After its being sent as a sample in 1794, Indian wootz steel began to be much in demand; and some 18 years later Stodart stated, "If a better steel is offered to me, I will gladly attend to it, but **the steel of India is decidedly the best I have yet met with.**"

OBSERVATORIES

Indian astronomical observatories at five places (Benaras, Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and now completely disappeared observatory at Mathura) were considered "celebrated observatories" of the world by the Encyclopaedia Britannica in its editions till 1823. John Playfair, a professor of mathematics and geology and a Presbyterian minister, who was elected a Fellow of the British Royal Society in 1807, published a long paper in 1790 "Remarks on the Astronomy of the Brahmins". After long discussion, he fixes the origin of astronomy in India 4300 years before the Christian era, that is, more than 6000 years before from today. He wrote that "what indeed was still more wonderful, that, some ages ago, there had arisen a Newton among the Brahmins, to discover that universal principle which connects, not only the most distant regions of space, but the most remote periods of duration, and a De La Grange, to trace, through the immensity of both, its most subtle and complicated operations."

After talking of few principles of astronomy, geometry, trignometry and arithmetic, Playfair wrote that "we shall be astonished at the magnitude of that body of science, which must have enlightened the inhabitants of India in some remote age, and which, whatever it may have communicated to the Western nations (the passing of Indian knowledge of science in various fields to the West through the Arabs is now acknowledged by scholars), appears to have received nothing from them." In concluding his paper, Playfair wrote that these "extraordinary facts... have been fully proved", but at the same time expressed his ethnocentric bias when he said that "their being false were much more wonderful than their being true." Even such a man could write in 1817 the following about the solutions concerning "Indeterminate Problems" given by ancient Indian mathematician, Brahmagupta. "The solution then of a very difficult problem given by an Indian Algebraist, more than 1200 years ago, is such as can vie with those of two of the mathematicians the most distinguished for genius and invention which Europe could boast of ever having seen, at the end of the eighteenth century."

It is to be noted as a side remark that this ethnocentric bias of the European mind went on becoming stronger and stronger till "by 1820s or so most of the non-European world had become, at least in European theory and most history texts, if not altogether in actuality, backward and barbarian".

TECHNOLOGY

Col. T.D. Pearce, a servant of the British East India Company, wrote a letter on September 22, 1783, to the Royal Society, London accompanying a book -- a part of a very large one entitled 'The Wonders of the Creation', which was written, according to Pearce, "in fifth or sixth century of the Hijera". He refers to the Indian knowledge of the four satellites of Jupiter and the seven satellites of Saturn. Subsequently Herschel in Europe discovered the sixth satellite of Saturn on August 28, 1789, and the seventh on September 17, 1789 after he had completed his grand telescope of 40 feet focal length. The author of Pearce's memoirs 'pictured the probability that Colonel Pearce's papet may have met the eye of Herschel, and may have been an additional spur to the indefatigable and wonderful labours of that great man." Pearce wrote: "I am much inclined to believe they (Indians) **had better instruments than we have"**. He was of the opinion that in India **"telescopes were things in common use, before we had any ideas of them."** Pearce wrote about the things that 'may seem wonderful, which come within my own knowledge. I have the prediction of three comets and an earthquake, which I received long before the events. The earthquake did actually happen, and desolated the extensive regions, round Lahore."

Reuben Bursow, a mathematician and assistant to the then astronomer-royal at Greenwich around 1770, wrote an article in 1790, "A proof that the Hindus had the Binomical Theorem' since the ancient times much before Europe. Encyclopaedia Britannica in its 1850 edition acknowledged Burrow's contribution in bringing Indian Algebra to the notice of the Europeans. Till Burrow's article in 1790, and in British reference books like the Encyclopaedia Britannica till well into the 20th century, the discovery of this theorem has been credited to Newton.

PART III Continued Next issue.

Motto on notes

Bombay, Feb. 27 (UNI) - The new Rs 100 currency note released by the Reserve Bank recently, has the motto "Satyameva Jayate" inscribed below the national emblem.

This marks the successful conclusion of freedom fighter C V. Varad's 21 year-old struggle with the Union Government and the RBI. Mr. Varad, who is a crusader against the misuse and improper use of national emblems, has been fighting since 1959 for the inclusion of the motto in the national emblem on currency notes.

The Union Government had directed all concerned by a circular on October 28, 1972 to ensure that the motto "Satyameva Jayate" was properly reproduced when the national emblem was used.

When Mr. Varad pointed this out to the RBI, it had informed him on June 13 last year, that the motto would be included on bank notes when the existing designs were changed.

Indians i

Prof. V. Subramaniam

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clear stereo-type of a local India
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that is, an arm of the India
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Another Indian Agency is mana
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good results. The Government
India has also signed an extensi
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the public. A small number
Indians serve in Nigerian univ
sities as professors and lectur
and are quite popular with th
colleagues and students.

The most visible group and t
which has made the high
impact is probably that of
school teachers. In some state
Nigeria, it is roughly estima
that nearly half of the sch
teachers are Indian. A consid
able proportion of them
Christians from Kerala with t
husband and wife teaching in
same or nearby schools. T
have come to Nigeria by diffe
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Most of the teachers teach
schools in small towns far f
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Indians in Nigeria

Prof. V. Subramaniam

There used to be a more or less clear stereo-type of a local Indian in East Africa - as a rich tightfisted grocery merchant named Patel. This stereo-type right or wrong was so rooted in African minds that the profiteering black African merchants were nicknamed black Patels. There is no such stereotype in West Africa. Numerically the Indians are quite an insignificant group, even if one adds the very similar looking Ceylon Tamils to that number but their impact is quite visible. Nobody has done a headcount and the numbers may be anything from ten to twenty thousand but they are a thoroughly varied lot.

Very few indeed have come to Nigeria on the basis of direct Government to Government negotiations. An Indian Government sponsored Management Agency that is, an arm of the Indian Railways, is managing the Nigerian Railways on a management contract for three years, just as the Nigerian Airways are managed by the KLM. The Railway staff except for the manual workers are mostly Indian and on the whole, their running of the railways is much commended. Another Indian Agency is managing the Nigerian Paper Mills with good results. The Government of India has also signed an extensive agreement for all types of industrial cooperation recently and has undertaken to develop one of the nineteen states of Nigeria called BAUCHI. It is a brave and exciting venture, but its success is a matter for the future. India also trains the commissioned ranks of the Nigerian Army but both governments want to play it down. Practically all the other Indians are on their own whether they work for the Government of Nigeria or for universities or private agencies. In a way this is good. Government to government secondments tend to be both bureaucratic as well as inefficient and opportunities for nepotism are not too few. An Indian recruited on his own is face to face with his employer and the Nigerian community and is usually at his best in sheer self-interest.

Thus, the Indian pilots running most of Nigerian Airways internal flights have been recruited individually by Nigerian recruiting teams or authorities. That goes for most of the Indian doctors and specialists in Nigeria's hospitals, the Indian engineers and architects in Government as well as private enterprises and several other qualified technical personnel. A small number are U.N. employees serving on some U.N. development project. They are generally highly regarded by their employing bodies as well as the public. A small number of Indians serve in Nigerian universities as professors and lecturers and are quite popular with their colleagues and students.

The most visible group and that which has made the highest impact is probably that of the school teachers. In some states of Nigeria, it is roughly estimated that nearly half of the school teachers are Indian. A considerable proportion of them are Christians from Kerala with both husband and wife teaching in the same or nearby schools. They have come to Nigeria by different routes; some were teachers in Ethiopia and left when conditions grew difficult and others have come from other African countries such as Sierra Leone and Zambia. A small number might have come directly from India. Most of the teachers teach in schools in small towns far from the main cities and live under rather difficult conditions. But they probably see more of the average Nigerian boys, girls and parents than the experts serving in the cities. The Indian image in Nigeria is more or less that projected by the Indian teacher and thanks to them, it is good.

There are, of course, Indian businessmen, mainly Sindhis such as Chellaram. The average Indian businessman in East Africa is usually a Gujarati small scale grocery merchant running it as a family business with father, mother son and daughter managing the show. They are also known to be religious and conservative. The Sindhis of West Africa are westernized and secular and very large-scale businessmen. Instead of seeing the whole family behind the counter as in East Africa, one scarcely sees the Sindhi owner or for that matter any Indian face behind the counter. The employees are all local Nigerians, recruited in the open market. The Sindhi capitalists get on very well partly because of their employment policies and more because, unlike East Africa, Nigeria is an openly capitalist society with an old fashioned macho cult of capitalism and admires the guts and abilities of Sindhi capitalists. Some of them have been conferred traditional honours like a chieftaincy. Many of them have joint ventures with local capitalists.

There is a sizeable community of Sri Lanka Tamils who generally identify with the Indians culturally and otherwise. They are mostly professionals such as engineers, doctors and accountants with practically no businessmen among them.

The Indian stock is quite high for diverse reasons. Negatively Indians were not associated with colonial policies of encouraging small scale Indian business as in East Africa. Secondly, the Indian freedom struggle was an open inspiration to Nigerian nationalists such as Nnamdi Azikiwe, the first President of free Nigeria, who declares often that Nehru and Gandhi became household names to him quite early. He was also popularly known as the Nigerian Gandhi. Even more than such reasons is the growing popularity of the Indian film in Nigerian cities. They love the catchy light music of Hindi films and enjoy its escapist boy-meets-girl story thoroughly.

Overseas Indians in general and Indians in Africa in particular are delighted with Indira Gandhi's victory. As President Kaunda of Zambia put it undiplomatically, Africans and Indians in Africa look forward to a "strong and respected government in India" as the guarantee of their own international status.

Tribals and modern medicine

New Delhi (IBS) - Thousands of tribals in the wayside village of Mesra, have had their first taste of modern medicine and "consider it a miracle".

We thought that blindness and diseases were the curse of the gods, said one wise old man in the village clutching his new pair of glasses. The chance to meet the doctors came to about 22,000 tribals tucked away in the laps of the hills around the Ranchi group of villages.

Diseases treated included various dental, gynaecological and skin diseases. One of the highlights of the camp, was the operation on a woman with a 2.5 kg. tumor in her belly. The woman had been "carrying" the tumor for over two years.

Karamshal J. Somaiya, a 77-year-old industrialist who headed the camp, told the society, that "it was the job of the doctors to try and educate the illiterate villager and help them accept medical aid against the quackery offered by the tribal witch doctor.

Move towards authoritarianism?

New Delhi - A woman who teaches Asian history was saying at a dinner party that just after Indira Gandhi won her election last month a group of professors gathered to discuss the implications of her return.

"Half of us thought she would bide her time for six months before moving toward authoritarianism while the other half said she would rush pell-mell," said the woman. "Now it seems pretty clear that the pell-mellers were right."

Jagdish Kapur, an engineer and an industrialist, disagrees sharply. "So far," he commented, "Mrs. Gandhi has passed every test with flying colors.

"She has not appointed any of the discredited old faces to her Cabinet, she has served notice on hoarders and smugglers and she has developed a brilliant foreign policy in very dangerous times," he added, voicing the hope that she would end the economic drift of the previous government and introduce an element of accountability and discipline to the economy.

(Last night Mrs. Gandhi's party was heading toward a 4-1 victory in parliamentary by-elections that left the opposition shattered.)

Bleak view

Mrs. Gandhi's defenders far outnumber her critics, but in this city the critics tend to be more vocal. They include such people as Romesh Thapar, a social scientist and editor of an intellectual journal, who wrote that Mrs. Gandhi's party had been taken over by the underworld. Mr. Thapar, who was an adviser to and political confidant of the Prime Minister 10 years ago, said in an interview that certain key public appointment had clearly indicated Mrs. Gandhi's intention to pursue a policy of confrontation and retaliation against her political rivals.

Another bleak view was expressed by Piloo Mody, a Janata Party member of the Upper House of Parliament who was jailed by Mrs. Gandhi during the period in the mid-1970s when most civil liberties were suspended. On the positive side, he said that she had a wonderful grasp of the national psyche and that she knew how signals were understood in a society that has withstood both Islamic and British colonialism by appearing to submit before authority.

Message out

On the negative side he cited the case of N.K. Singh, the senior police official who conducted an investigation into the theft and destruction of a satirical film about Mrs. Gandhi while she was prime minister four years ago. Sanjay Gandhi, her son, was convicted of the crime but is free pending appeal. Within two weeks of Mrs. Gandhi's election Mr. Singh, who was awaiting reassignment, was visited by detectives before dawn and taken away for a time for questioning. "Nothing really happened to Mr. Singh," Mr. Mody continued, "but the message went out very clearly to 15,000 senior officers: We will punish those who are against us and reward those who are with us."

This was reinforced by the appointment of P.S. Bhinder as the commissioner of police, Mr. Mody said, noting that he had been leapfrogged over 140 more qualified candidates because of his close association with Sanjay Gandhi. But Mr. Kapur, the industrialist, defended the changes in the police force: "She has to purge the police; everyone knows that they have been infiltrated by her enemies."

George Fernandes, the former labor leader who heads one small opposition wing in Parliament, also believes that Mrs. Gandhi's Government is steering a course of confrontation in the hope of obliterating all opposition while riding the crest of electoral popularity. More than a month ago he predicted that Mrs. Gandhi would dissolve the state legislatures where her party was in the minority. She did that last week.

As for Parliament, now in recess, Mr. Fernandes thinks the followers of Sanjay Gandhi will attempt to bring the parliamentary process to a standstill by shouting down and intimidating the opposition. He believes that Mrs. Gandhi will then seek to consolidate all governmental authority without declaring an emergency.

Her defenders say such warnings are nonsense. The owner of a knitting mill said the Prime Minister's opponents were mistaking licence for liberty and that she had already brought a sense of order and responsibility to the country. "Corruption is down," he said, "inspectors are doing their jobs, the beggars are off the streets and people are queuing up for buses."

Another businessman said Mrs. Gandhi's victory was a warning to labor unions that were interferring with growth and development through strikes and agitation. He said he was sure that her campaign against hoarders was also aimed against unions since it was clear that withholding labor was the same as hoarding a valuable national resource. "Under new legislation," he said, "hoarders can be detained without trial."

So the terms of the debate have been set.

Special courts

The critics warn that dissent is being squelched, that a patronage network is being established to reward loyalty. They say the governing party is seeking to cow opponents into submission through mild but clear intimidation. They point to the self-destruction of the special courts set up to try Mrs. Gandhi and her associates for abuse of power during her so-called emergency rule. Soon after the election the courts, which were established seven months ago, declared themselves lacking constitutional authority.

Mrs. Gandhi's defenders, on the other hand, say they believe her assurances that she will never again proclaim an emergency. They say that what is at issue is efficiency, not authoritarianism.

The special courts, Mrs. Gandhi's backers say, were vindictive organs that were only tearing national unity apart, and their demise was long overdue. What is needed, they say, is Mrs. Gandhi's leadership to get the coal moving from the mines and the electricity flowing. They say that toughness is necessary to purge sluggish and corrupt institutions.

[New York Times]

State assemblies dissolved

New Delhi (Reuter), Feb. 18 - The Government of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi yesterday dissolved nine state assemblies controlled by the opposition, the Press Trust of India news agency reports.

Fresh state elections will be called, and Mrs. Gandhi's Indira Congress Party hopes to repeat the landslide victory it won in last month's national elections.

The move was not unexpected. The former Janata Party government dissolved state assemblies in similar fashion after it came to power in 1977.

Mrs. Gandhi won a two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha (lower house of Parliament), but most of India's 22 states continue to be run by opposition parties.

State assemblies were dissolved in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

In Uttar Pradesh, Mrs. Gandhi had criticized local leaders for what she said was a breakdown in law and order.

In a letter to the state's chief minister, Banarsi Das, published yesterday, she called for steps to protect harijans (untouchables) from exploitation and ill-treatment by upper-caste Hindus.

After visiting an Uttar Pradesh village where police were alleged to have committed atrocities earlier this month, the Prime Minister told Mr. Das he had no right to continue in office.

The opposition also ran the administrations in three other states, but those in southern Karnataka and northern Himachal Pradesh resigned, and the Government in northern Haryana state defected to Mrs. Gandhi's party.

The decision to dissolve the assemblies came after the Prime Minister and her cabinet ministers held an emergency meeting. A presidential proclamation placing the states under direct central Government rule is expected later.

The Cabinet contended that the nine opposition-run state governments and assemblies no longer reflected the views or wishes of the electorate, the same grounds the Janata government used to order the 1977 dissolutions.

A victory by Mrs. Gandhi's party in the new elections would change the composition of the upper house of the national Parliament, where the opposition is still in the majority.

Upper house members are elected indirectly by state legislators, with one-third of the house replaced every two years. The next replacement is due in March.

Rupee rush over

New Delhi (IBS) - The scramble to purchase the Indian rupee on the Zurich and other West European money markets noticed during the run-up to the Lok Sabha elections appears to be subsiding and the value has fallen noticeably in respect to the American dollar.

During the two months prior to the election, hundred rupee notes bought unofficially in Geneva and Zurich markets fetched a premium, chiefly because of the sudden upsurge in demand. While the official rate hovered around Rs. 8 to a US dollar, buyers in Europe were only getting between Rs. 7.20 to a dollar.

Some educational institutions and their working

By A.M. Mathai

One working day afternoon I went to visit a local college in Kerala. This college is a first grade college offering masters and Ph.D degrees, something equivalent to a full fledged small university in Canada. This is one of the many colleges affiliated to the Kerala University. I reached around 2pm and the staff rooms of many departments were empty. The principal was there in his office from whom I learnt that the university had introduced a shift system. Almost all the classes except the preuniversity classes start at 9 am and finish at 1 pm. The preuniversity classes start at 2.30 pm and finish at 5.30 pm. The afternoon shift is taught by newly "hired" lecturers. The hiring procedure will be explained later. The principal and the heads of the departments of Mathematics and Statistics had made advance requests to me to talk to the M.Sc students when I would visit Kerala. Hence I returned to the college next morning. Only very few senior lecturers were present and a number of classes had been cancelled. I found that according to the university regulations the 15 days of official casual leaves must be taken before the end of the calendar year. Hence most of them were on leave. Those who were present had one or two hours lectures that day. One senior man came rushing in for his lecture. He had only one lecture that day. Soon after his lecture he excused himself and rushed out. Until last year he used to be a devoted academician. When all other lecturers had other side businesses going on he used to be present in the office helping students with their problems. During the last two years corruption, indiscipline and irresponsibility have spread to all phases of academic activities.

I was told that most of the lecturers have some other businesses and teaching is taken as a side business for the sake of a constant income every month. Some are in money lending business or loan sharking. They lend money to poor merchants on daily basis. These poor fellows usually borrow 100 or 200 rupees the previous night, buy vegetables, bananas, etc. in the night and carry them to the market early in the morning and sell them. They make about Rs 30 profit on Rs. 100 borrowed. Out of which Rs. 20 goes as daily interest and the poor fellow makes Rs 10 for his labour. Collection agencies for the money lenders are run by some local thugs who belong to various political parties which gives them protection from police interference. Otherwise they have to give a part to the police also. My friend, who was one of the last ones to consider his teaching job as a side business still does not like to do loan sharking. He is in lumber business. He buys lumber and firewood from the countryside, transport them by trucks and sell in the towns. A number of others are with him looking after various phases of this operation. They never have time to do any preparation for their lectures. They go to the classes and tell whatever comes to mind whether right or wrong. Almost all of them take all their official leaves and a number of unofficial leaves.

One principal tells me that several of the staff want to sign the attendance register for days when they are absent without prior notice or permission. If such privileges are denied they create other problems for the principal. In one college I found the principal running around looking for lecturers. Even after 10 minutes passed nine many of them were not in the classes and the students were making a noise and disturbing other classes.

In one of the local colleges, which used to be the best in the state for discipline, university ranks and first classes, I could not find a single student in the departmental library and reading rooms. The book shelfs looked like they had not been opened for a long time. New books and journals were piled up at one corner. Nobody had even sorted them out. I asked the head of the department why the M.Sc students were not given some assignments so that they would at least go to the library and open some books and journals. He said that if he did that his students would not have the time to study the notes and they would not get first classes. Right now his students capture most of the university ranks and first classes. If there is any initiative or creative abilities in any of the students the system eliminates them completely by the time these students finish their M.Sc's. My friend told me that the banks are the main employers now. There the salaries are more than the college or university salaries. M.Sc first classes stand a high chance of getting jobs in the banks. Once employed these graduates are not going to use any of the skills they learnt. In order to get first classes the students have to concentrate on the question papers of earlier examinations because most of the people who set the question papers do not know much and hence they rely on earlier question papers or worked examples in the text books. Anyhow none of my friend's M.Sc graduates are unemployed.

When I visited the local college I found the glasses in most of the doors and windows had been knocked off. That was done by the police earlier in the year! This was the result of the 1979 student leadership campaign. During the beginning of every year the elections for student councils take place. Whoever wants to be a student leader has to establish himself before the elections take place. The most frequently used method and the most easy one is to start a bus strike. As soon as the schools and colleges open they start an agitation in the name of some issues. Usually the issues are "reduce bus fares", "extend bus lines", "create more bus stops", etc. If the demands are met without resistance then the potential leaders and their friends would beat up a bus conductor or driver on some flimsy excuse. Then the strike starts. All the political factions compete for leaderships by showing stronger and bolder leaderships by blocking all the traffic, by destroying the tires, by beating up the passengers and by burning the buses. The one who gives successful leadership to burning buses eventually becomes the leader and he wins the elections. These people become the political leaders, ministers and chief ministers in Kerala. It is said that the only qualification for one of the chief ministers of Kerala is that he gave leadership and successfully burnt a number of state transport buses during his student days. Anyhow the 1979 issue was to give bus tickets at concession rates for students of "parallel colleges" also. There are a number of private tutorial colleges all over Kerala. They are called parallel colleges now because someone coined a more respectable name. This year the parallel college students wanted concession bus tickets. Strikes started and spread to regular colleges and schools. Bus travel, the most commonly used transportation system, was disrupted all over. A number of buses were damaged. A few buses were hijacked to miles away and the non-student passengers were let off miles away and the students were brought back. At this time it should be mentioned that there is a general saying that "there is a limit to anyone's patience and tolerance". But this common hypothesis has no value all over India especially in Kerala. Due to lack of a proper government and law and order the common man's tolerance has no lower limit. He has become meek and docile. He has learnt to suffer and not to react to any type of hooliganism. This is the net effect of the developments in the last two years. If he utters a word against any of these he is branded as anti-democratic something like the label of antisemetic in this country. He has begun thinking that life without suffering at the hands of students, politicians and public officials is no life at all.

At the local college the leaders decided to bring one private bus into the college compound and burn it. They took a new bus belonging to one local private company compelled the driver to drive it into the college compound. They let the passengers out and started to beat it to a pulp. After beating it up they were planning to burn it. Meanwhile the owner of the bus collected a bunch of rowdies. They along with a group of drivers and conductors, about 200 of them, came with sticks, stones and knives and started beating up the students. The police were there but they did not intervene because on each occasion whenever they intervened some political parties through their ministers took revenge against police. One police officer told me that they would not do anything any more to stop such things. They wait until someone is killed. Then they go and take care of the body and prepare a case if there is conclusive evidence for filing a case. Anyhow when the police were watching the fights some students directed their attack at the police for not stopping the goondas. The police officer in charge was hit by stone and some others were roughed up. They called for help. From the police headquarters about 20 km away came three truckloads of reserve riot police. They started beating up everyone in sight. Some students ran inside the college and hostels. Police chased them, broke the glass windows and doors and beat them up. During that beating a lot of students, staff and even the local municipal chairman were hospitalized. The college was closed for one and a half months. Thus ended the 1979 leadership campaign. This was the college in the state best known for discipline and high standards. The property damage to the college is about ten thousand rupees in glass windows and doors alone and the loss to the bus company is estimated to be two lakhs. The principal told me that if on 50 per cent of the working days some form of classes took place without some troubles then it would be a good year. According to him the situation there was better compared to other colleges in the state.

In another college a principal took some action against a student. One day a group of students surrounded the principal, he was punched and slapped and he was about to be killed by pushing down from the third floor when some teachers saw and rescued him. The principal of the local college told me that he was mortally afraid to take any action against the students. According to him even if he took some action the university would let him down and even if the university took some action the sutdent concerned would appeal to the court and invariably the court would nullify the disciplinary action. When I visited the college a case was going on. One student cheated in the examination. When the student got the question paper he gave it out to his friend who was waiting outside at the window. His friend wrote up the answers in the question paper and gave it back to the student. The invigilator saw all this. He went and told him not to copy down those answers. The student did not pay any attention to the invigilator. After some time the invigilator repeated his request without any use. He did not take any further action. But after the examination the student and his friends openly abused the teacher by using the most vulgar language and threatened to beat him up. When the invigilator wanted to go home the student and his gang were waiting at the college gate. He came back and waited inside the college until 7 pm and finally called a taxi and escaped. The teacher made an oral complaint to the principal. He would not make a written complaint saying that then the case would become official but either the principal or the university or the court would let him down and finally the student would take revenge possibly killing him. The principal would not take any action unless the complaint was given to him in writing because he did not want to be in trouble. Finally the principal asked the student and his father to come. They would not come. He sent a person and practically begged them to come. They came and the father of the student apologized to the principal. The student was allowed to continue writing other examinations next day. About sixty percent of the staff signed a petition against the principal for not taking proper action against the student. When I visited the college heated discussions and meetings were going on in the coffee rooms, staff rooms and in the principal's office. A strike by the staff was in the air unless some miracle thwarted it.

One of the lecturers told me what he did in such a situation. A student was doing malpractice when he was invigilating an examination. The student was asked not to copy. The student openly disobeyed and embarrassed him in the presence of other students who were in the examination hall. He did not take any action knowing that it would be a foolish move. After the examination he collected the answer books, went to his office and crossed out the answers of two to three most correctly answered questions by using the same ink and made sure that the student did not pass that examination. Even though what the invigilator did was illegal he said that it was the only safe way that he could take revenge for embarrassing him in front of other students.

There is a complete breakdown of the whole examination system. One member of the examination board told me that after doing all types of malpractice only about ten to fifteen percent of the students really pass when the pass mark is only 35 percent. Then the board makes moderation after moderation and being the final pass rate about 60 to 70 percent. He told me that people who do not know how to write one correct sentence in English are teaching English in schools and people who do not even know high school mathematics are teaching mathematics in the colleges.

The appointments are often made on the basis of all forms of bribes. In the private colleges the prospective candidates have to give some "donations" to "college funds", Building funds etc. After the proper donations he can get in and he can expect to begin to draw his salaries after six to eight months of free service. Still there are people to line up for jobs mainly because they consider the college job the only means of a constant income when their main source of income may be some side business.

Lack of sincerity and complete irresponsibility can be seen in all phases of academic life. The students take education as a means of excitement through mass action in the form of strikes burning of transport buses and writing slogans. But they want pieces of papers called the degree certificates because these give them a sense of respectability in the countryside and bring larger dowries when they get married. Most of them do not see any practical use of anything they are taught in the colleges. I find it difficult to explain the meaning of research and the need for research even to the college professors. A classmate of mine dropped out before completing high school. He is now a multimillionaire running all types of businesses including movie productions. According to him all the institutions of higher education are a sheer wastage of public funds. He is quite right if the current state of affairs is allowed to continue. There cannot be any further deterioration.

It is natural to ask whether there is any solution to the problem of this complete breakdown. The student indiscipline can be removed only if the political parties and courts do not interfere in the university affairs. But this is impossible under the present system because in Kerala and elsewhere in India the very concept of a leader is the one who can create agitations and lead others. These are to begin in the school itself. The main qualifications of the old political leaders used to be that they claimed to have gone to jail during freedom struggle. Most of those leaders are dead and gone. The only qualification the current leaders can claim are that they have given leadership in burning up transport buses, destroying public properties, disfiguring public places by writing slogans etc. The very lifeline of the political system in Kerala depends on agitations, jathas, gheraos, strikes and harthals. Hunger strikes are on the way out due to lack of volunteers. Under the present political system noninterference from political parties is out of question. How can one redirect the academic staff into academic line? One may argue that this can be achieved by conducting reorientation classes and seminars to re-educate them. But under the present system there is no way of compelling them to go to such reorientation classes. Financial and other inducements can only result in the wastage of more public funds.

It is the question of bringing about a complete change in the attitudes of the staff and students alike. Only the fear of losing their job and lack of protection through unions and political parties can bring a change in the attitude of the staff. The fear of losing student status can redirect the student's energy to academic persuits. The days of appeal to good senses, rhetorics on the nobility of the cause of education etc. are all gone. Only a modified democratic system which is capable of instilling some discipline where no political parties exist or at the most two parties exist can bring about improvement in the deterioration of the educational system in Kerala and elsewhere in India.

FILM

PRAKRUTHI MANOHARI

[Malayalam]

Written, produced and di
by G.S. Panicker

G.S. Panicker is a young with a fiery zeal to make socially relevant films. H that if he does not have anything in a film, he wou make it. He invests hi money in his productions w caring for the boxoffice par His first directorial venture Ini, was an off-beat, experi film so far as the treatme theme were concerned. A married couple on their moon discover differences outlook and approach, so m that instead of coming together they drift away each other. The film start big close-ups, signifying th relations between the coupl as the chasm between th widens, the camera recede to medium shots and long longer shots.

Ekakini was a very s and sensitively made film, commercial distributors to touch it even with a barg in a manner of speaking, remaining in the cans for years. It was released recovered its investment, emboldened Panicker to on his second film, **Pra Manohari**, which literally "Oh! Beautiful Nature."

Prakruthi Manohari is the first political film in M lam on the freedom mov and police repression o freedom fighters. It is set late 1930s, in the State of T core, whose ruler, the Ma was considered a demi-god populace, and where the Al State People's Congress, of the Indian National Con was fighting its own battl inst the Princely rulers. Pa claims that the film is bas real life incidents and he sh the actual locations of Kerala villages - Pangodu ara and Kadakkal.

It has many themes knit in the screenplay: Con men's peaceful agitation a the rulers, conflict betwee and peace, unhappiness springing from his excessi sires, self-aggrandizemen ruler's henchmen, poor p helplessness, and of cour police repression and tri innocent people.

In search of facts and m Panicker went to the locations, talked to the who had taken part Congress' anti-Maharaja tions. It took him two y write the script for **Pr Manohari**. By the time finished it, **Ekakini** had ed its money and Panick ready to take up **Prakruthi hari**.

Panicker tells the story illiterate vagabond-turned man Raman Nair, an illegi who becomes a pan Maharaja's repressive ma He is treated as a tool rulers' scheme of things. from episode to episode, discover that his pregna and later he himself are vi police rapacity and inhun He is shot dead by the when he is found in the c of an injured Congressma jungles.

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FILMS

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Written, produced and directed by G.S. Panicker

G.S. Panicker is a young man with a fiery zeal to make some socially relevant films. He says that if he does not have to say anything in a film, he would not make it. He invests his own money in his productions without caring for the boxoffice part of it. His first directorial venture, **Ekakini**, was an off-beat, experimental film so far as the treatment and theme were concerned. A newly-married couple on their honeymoon discover differences in their outlook and approach, so much so that instead of coming closer together they drift away from each other. The film starts with big close-ups, signifying the close relations between the couple, and as the chasm between the two widens, the camera recedes back to medium shots and longer and longer shots.

Ekakini was a very sensibly and sensitively made film, but the commercial distributors refused to touch it even with a barge pole, in a manner of speaking. After remaining in the cans for three years, it was released and it recovered its investment, which emboldened Panicker to venture on his second film, **Prakruthi Manohari**, which literally means 'Oh! Beautiful Nature.'

Prakruthi Manohari is perhaps the first political film in Malayalam on the freedom movement and police repression of the freedom fighters. It is set in the late 1930s, in the State of Travancore, whose ruler, the Maharaja was considered a demi-god by its populace, and where the All India State People's Congress, a wing of the Indian National Congress, was fighting its own battle against the Princely rulers. Panicker claims that the film is based on real life incidents and he shot it in the actual locations of remote Kerala villages - Pangodu, Kallara and Kadakkal.

It has many themes knit closely in the screenplay: Congressmen's peaceful agitation against the rulers, conflict between war and peace, unhappiness of man springing from his excessive desires, self-aggrandizement of ruler's henchmen, poor people's helplessness, and of course the police repression and tricks on innocent people.

In search of facts and material, Panicker went to the actual locations, talked to the people who had taken part in the Congress' anti-Maharaja agitations. It took him two years to write the script for **Prakruthi Manohari**. By the time he had finished it, **Ekakini** had recovered its money and Panicker was ready to take up **Prakruthi Manohari**.

Panicker tells the story of an illiterate vagabond-turned-policeman Raman Nair, an illegitimate, who becomes a part of the Maharaja's repressive machine. He is treated as a tool in the rulers' scheme of things. He lives from episode to episode, only to discover that his pregnant wife and later he himself are victims of police rapacity and inhumanity. He is shot dead by the police, when he is found in the company of an injured Congressman in the jungles.

Panicker does not believe in using any symbols and/or metaphors to establish his point or to make the film "intellectual." "Symbolic significance is an old technique, of the Eisenstein era. Nobody, these days, bothers about symbols and metaphors. Tell the thing as it is and no beating about the bush through symbology. The only thing I have used is a dramatic technique. I've divided the film into five acts, differentiating each one with theme music. When one analyses the film from episode to episode, one finds these divisions.

The simplicity and narrative style, combined with documentary approach, make it easily understandable, even if one doesn't know Malayalam. Cutting is very methodical, from episode to episode, with a few jumps here and there. In the montage of firing sequence (when the police shoots the agitators), the **nouvelle vague** influence is evident. So it is in other sequences. Panicker takes care not to overdramatize any event or episode. But for the irony and humour, splintered all over, the film would have been too serious and a drab affair. Background music is used to great advantage, silences heighten the effect more than the musical score. In a few sequences, however, one finds the lighting effect not in accord with the time of the day. The cast is handpicked, there are no big names of the Malayalam cinema. The surprise is that they behave so naturally as if they are seasoned artists. Mavelikara Ramachandran, a local theatre actor and director, plays a stern teacher with choler and command.

Oh, yes, for such a theme why the title "Oh! Beautiful Nature"? The film is almost entirely shot in the open spaces of villages and jungles. Panicker contrasts nature's bounty and beauty with man's beastly nature. The film begins with sunrise and ends with sunset. By the way, aren't these two sequences themselves symbolic of the happy beginning and tragic ending of the main character?

DARSHAK in Democratic World.

KHUBSOORAT [Hindi]

Directed by Hrishikesh Mukherjee

Produced by N C Sippy and Hrishikesh Mukherjee

More or less it is the same team which made **Gol Maal** that has now come out with **Khubsoorat**. And like **Gol Maal, Khubsoorat** is a light comedy but not as comical. It has the same salt and spirit Hrishikesh Mukherjee is known for, it has the same humour and wit Gulzar (dialogue writer) has become famous for, and it has the same unpredictability that both, when they work together, are reputed for. It has a message too; that iron discipline suppresses the personality of man, that freedom without responsibility becomes licence, that even the foolproof army machine (read disciplined martinet) is vulnerable.

It is a social film, plain and simple, to sit back and enjoy. But somebody could read political meaning into it. Too much of discipline kills a man's natural instinct, depresses his spirits, and distorts his personality. And at the slightest of opportunity, he is ready to give expression to his freedom and independence.

A middle-aged matriarch rules her household like an army commander. Everybody has to behave as per the set rules, and everyone is expected to maintain strict discipline as set by the matriarch, a strict disciplinarian. Any departure from it and the members of the family had it. No cheers here, no laughter, not even a smile. So, no one dare question her authority, her command. Into this household of regimen and order, where its members feel oppressed, walks in an unbridles, unencumbered, uninhibited young bird - the bird of freedom and cheer, of joyfulness and song. By her gay abandon and joviality, she changes the attitude of almost every one. They burst out in laughter and song, emotions suppressed for long erupt suddenly, and they feel they are human beings again not disciplined marionettes repeating mechanically their principled routine. But the autocrat is cleverer than any one else. She traps "the bird of freedom" and makes her slave in her household. What happens later on one can only surmise.

Rekha is the bird of freedom and liberty who brings cheer and smile and sows the seeds of rebellion among the frightened members of the household. She is energetic, she is excessively smart, she is cheeringly mirthful. Even when she plots seriously against the autocrat (who later on becomes her mother-in-law), she does it with frolic and fun. She is the 'khubsoorat' spirit of the film. Endearing yet spiky, funny and flirtatious, she is a bundle of energy Hrishi-da has mouled in the right spirit. Even when she administers a shock, it is mild and sweet. **Khubsoorat** has transformed Rekha the sex kitten into Rekha the coy comedian. And that is not a small transformation for an artist.

Dina Pathak plays the autocrat with stern visage and sterner manners. Ashok Kumar walks through the father's role with his characteristic naturalness.

Book review
Sikhism

Francis Assisi

Five hundred years after Guru Nanak, scholars are preparing to examine minutely certain of the fundamental issues pertaining to the Sikh religion. And Professor Mark Juergensmeyer of the Graduate Theological Union and the University of California, Berkeley, appears to be in the forefront of this effort.

The issues are multifaceted.

Should the study of Sikh scriptures be restricted to those who are themselves Sikhs? Are the Sikhs a community formed by the fusion of Hinduisms medieval bhakti movement and Islamic sufism? How well established are the Sikh scriptures claim to authenticity? Should the Sikh sacred scriptures (Adi Granth, Dasm Granth, and the Janamsakhis) be subjected to searching scholarly scrutiny and analysis? Can the Sikh religion be considered a hybrid; synthetic or syncretic? How can Sikhism maintain its communal character in its current diaspora of migrant Punjabis in such far flung places as Birmingham, Northern California, British Columbia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and New Zealand?

Mark Juergensmeyer and Gerald Barrier lead a team of eighteen scholars, including three Indians, in an attempt to elucidate these issues in a pioneering work on 'Sikh Studies' released by the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. This is the first time that Sikh Studies have been clearly demarcated by South Asian experts.

Juergensmeyer claims that scant attention has been given Sikhism in the textbooks on World Religions and concludes from his analysis that the 'mangling of Sikhism" is largely due to the 'inertia of academia'. Like any other important religious tradition, Sikhism should be taken seriously and made into a coherent, systematic field of study, thereby promoting academic respectability. He sees this collection of studies as a fresh attempt to encourage Sikh studies among Western scholars.

An example of the type of problem encountered by a noted Sikh scholar is revealing. A few years ago he had attempted to photograph every page of the Guru Granth to preserve the text in case anything happened to the original. What seemed natural and reasonable to the scholar, caused a tremendous stir among certain Sikh groups. Their reaction was to the effect that "you will photograph the naked body of our Guru over our dead bodies". So the matter was dropped. Surjit Singh raises evidence to prove 'there is, in principle, no objection to the application of technical instruments to the sacred text', Dean of the San Francisco Theological Seminary, Surjit Singh, makes an important point: 'In the new self awareness of the Khalsa a distinction should be made between believing Sikh and non-believing non-Sikh scholarship... Piety alone cannot do it; it needs the services of technical scholarship. Settling the originality of the Sikh scriptures becomes all the more urgent if the Adi Granth is to have its rightful place among the sacred scriptures of mankind'.

Narinder Singh Kapany of the Sikh Foundation in Redwood City feels that 'due to the deep commitment both to their own culture as well as to the American way of life, the Sikhs represent a fascinating source of sociological study'. Karine Schomer who teaches Hindi at U.C. Berkeley, looks at the influence of Kabir on the Adi Granth and finds that the dohas of Kabir preserved in the Adi Granth tend to be those which encourage a 'solid, moral, god-fearing religious community' while his mystical god-intoxicated outpourings were not included.

W.H. McLeod of New Zealand disagrees with the view that sacred scriptures should not be too closely evaluated for study because they are the focus of profound veneration. All of the scholars agree that the Sikh scriptures should be studied in terms of origins, authorship, textual analysis, contemporary attitude and usage. Works on mythology, spiritual practices and belief structures should be encouraged for the sake of comparative religious studies. The generous outpourings of devotional and theological literature from Punjab come nowhere near fulfilling the methodological approach suggested by these scholars. Professor Barrier, a well known authority of Sikh political history, outlines the state of research on Sikh ideology and institutions, showing that neither the intellectual or institutional developments so crucial to understanding a period of dramatic changes within sikhism have received adequate attention. He discusses problems associated with handling documents, integrating data, as well as social and political mobilization of Sikhs and the evolution of trends among Sikh intellectuals. Divisions within Sikhism are also briefly touched upon.

A third of the book deals with aspects of the Sikh community abroad. The Sikh diaspora, according to professor McLeod is a large puzzle which can be understood only when the disparate pieces are seen together, and to that end he traces the history and origins of the Sikhs in the South Pacific. Bruce LaBrack, Harold Jacoby, and Mark Juergensmeyer deal separately with the Sikh community in California, while SuchengChang perceives the Sikhs in the context of other immigrant communities which came to California from the far East. Juergensmeyer identifies the 'Ghadar Syndrome' as the fusion of ethnic anger and nationalist pride and interestingly enough sees much wider implications for the syndrome in all of the scholars involved in this book feel that the vitality of the Sikh faith and the contemporary strength of the community are more than adequate to support such academic dissection. In general, the book reveals problems involving the scholarly intrepretation of Sikh society in modern terms.

'SIKH STUDIES' Mark Juergensmeyer and Gerald Barrier (ed) 230pp. Hb. 1979. Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley.
Copies may be obtained from : Lancaster Miller Publishers, 3165 Adeline St., Berkeley, CA 94703

The polls

THE PEOPLE'S VERDICT

G.G. Mirchandani

200pp 30 statistical tables Rs 45

This is a unique book. It gives illuminating analyses from computerised material and interesting facts and trends in voting patterns.

It is a sequel to the pioneering step taken by the United News of India (UNI), a national news agency with a countrywide teleprinter network, to computerise its coverage of the 1980 Lok Sabha elections. For weeks before the polls a massive input of well-documented information about the earlier Lok Sabha elections was fed into the DCM Spectrum/7 computers. As the results started pouring in, the computers began spewing out a wide range of in-depth studies, unprecedented both in speed and variety in the annals of elections in India.

While the mass media not only in India but all over the world have briefly reported some of the highlights, the bulk of this computerised material, checked and rechecked, edited and re-edited for accuracy, has gone into this unique book - made available to you within days of the conclusion of the elections.

The United News of India, with its army of reporters posted in every nook and corner of this vast country, had the unique advantage of observing at close range the various stages of this historic election. As head of this national news agency G.G. Mirchandani has had at his command the mass of material produced and the data churned out by the computers.

The People's Verdict is a must for the layman, the political scientist and the student alike.

Vikas Publishing House PVT Ltd
Vikas House, 20/4 Industrial Area,
Sahibabad Distt,
Ghaziabad, U.P. [India]

Silver spurts

Bombay, Feb 27 (UNI) - Silver prices recorded a spectacular rise of Rs 237 in a single day to Rs 3462 per kg in Bombay.

Sport silver 996 which had developed an easy tendency for over a week or so had suddenly turned firm as sellers, eager to liquidate their holdings at possible higher levels during the past weeks became keen buyers of the white metal.

Besides encouraging advices from overseas, traders had derived the main inspiration from news in a section of the press that the centre was going to lift the present total ban on silver exports at any moment.

Despite strict vigilance by the authorities smuggling of silver out of the country still continues from the neighbouring border area in view of the considerably big gap between Indian and overseas silver prices.

McClure: a friend of India

By Barkat Masih Khokhar

Now that the both books - "The China Years" and "The Years of Challenge" are out in the market, one should be able to present in a nutshell the life and achievement of Dr. Robert McClure, the living saint of Canada.

Here is a precise portrait of Bob McClure sketched out of his two books by Monroe Scott and various articles and missionary sources. The study of his life presents us with ten lessons:

1. The three chief characteristics of this unusual Canadian are simplicity, adaptability and openness.

2. His missionary-pilgrim of 53 years in the East and West reveals that there is not a man within the walls of any Canadian church who can match his versatility, brilliance, unselfishness and stature. He has proved by his life that Christ was a lay preacher-teacher and healer.

3. His life manifests that there is oneness of humanity rooted in the Son of Man who is totally human as well as divine.

4. His resilience grew out of constant confrontations and dangers of life and his hyper-Calvanism, and his father's example as a Presbyterian surgeon-missionary in China.

5. Intensity of activity marks the life of Dr. McClure, at 79. He values time like Napolean Bonaparte who said: "I conquered my enemies because they did not know the value of five minutes." He is an early riser and went to bed at midnight in Ratlam, India, having performed half a dozen operations and seen many outdoor patients.

6. He is a living monument of multiculturalism. He has picked up many good points from the culture of China, India, Borneo, Palestine (Gaza), West Indies and Peru where he ventured to serve.

7. His Calvanistic piety presents a moral tonic to a society infested with deepening paganism, secular humanism, greed and permissiveness. He puts Christianity in a front show window by his example. "Do your work, not for mere pay, but from a real desire to serve. Do not try to rule over those who have been put in your care, but be examples to the flock."

8. His strong personality penetrated the curtain of traditionalism and broke institutionalism of the church. He had the rare honour of being elected while in India as the first layman Moderator of The United Church of Canada which was the inherent perogative of the clergy.

9. He promoted the forces of ecumenism in India which two years after his departure resulted in the formation of the Church of North India on 29 November, 1970. Despite his many beautiful and dynamic traits, he has at times shown impatience, rash judgement (as in the case of vietnam refugees in Canada) and imprudence.

10. Rev. Aubrey Moore and his wife Jean have known him for nearly forty years. Moore is a United Church minister in Halifax. His wife was born in Korea and educated with Ruth Billy Graham in Korea. She has lived in China too and seen the work of Bob McClure there. They are both his friend as well as critic. "Bob McClure is," observed Moore to me, "a unique man. We are both very fond of him. He is a frontline Christian soldier who shows compassion and courage of Christ at 79. His theological views are radical. He is a bit of a rebel within the United Church. This outstanding Christian man has given Zesty leadership in East and West. Surely he is a map for all nations."

Back to bullocks

New Delhi (IBS) - Scarcity of fuel finds the bullock cart coming into its own with the Madhya Pradesh government starting a "project bullock cart" which will be first implemented in the forest rich regions of Khandwa.

Carts made here would be supplied to buyers at 30 dollars a piece, according to a report.

AND TO THE BICYCLE

New Delhi (IBS) - While the move to introduce bullock carts in a big way for transportation of foodgrains in rural districts to offset the fuel shortage is being planned, in urbanised metropolis like Calcutta, the bicycle has come into its own.

Today there are more bicycles out on Calcutta streets than there were five years ago. In 1978-79, some 70,000 bicycles were sold per month against the average of 30,000 in 1973-74. The cost of the cycle has, however, gone up considerably since that time. The cheapest models now sell at 40 dollars while the more expensive ones fetch 50 to 70 dollars.

Five years ago, the cycle had been relegated to use by lower division clerks, school children and the like. Today even white collared workers are moving around on the bike.

Police rally

Cochin, Feb. 29 (UNI) - Police constables and head constables walked through the thoroughfares of the city recently shouting "workers, teachers, students and policemen unite" and "We will not allow ourselves to be slaves any more."

Women constables were at the vanguard of the procession holding aloft big banners.

The procession was part of the Ernakulam district conference of the Kerala Police Association which adopted a 62-point charter of demands.

The charter lists, among other things, eight-hour duty, recognition of police constables as skilled workers, one-day-parade in a week, abolition of all special armed police battalions, and exemption of women police from guard, traffic and staff duties.

Air India loan

New Delhi (IBS) - An agreement was signed for a loan agreement for $50 million between Air India and the Export-Import Bank of the United States. The loan, represents 29 per cent of the $61 million Air India finances borrowed to purchase three new Boeing 747. This will help replace the 707's currently on use on the India-Japan routes.

Efforts were made to get an air route going between India and Canada, but the response from the Canadian Government was not encouraging and so the airline did not press the issue.

Air India has borrowed a further amount of $50 million from a consortium of primarily European banks.

Coming events

The Graduate Students Association of Concordia University, Montreal, will be presenting two cultural events involving Indian classical dance and music.

Priyamvada Sankar, well-known dancer will be performing on March 21.

The Musical Evening on March 28 will present Vasant Rai on Sarod and Narendra Verma on Tabla.

Mr. Rai is a student of the late Ustad Alauddin Khan. Mr. Verma is a student of Allaha Rakha. Both the events will start at 8 p.m. at D.B. Clarke Theatre, Concordia University, 1455 DeMaisonneuve Blvd. West, Montreal. Admission is free, but seats must be reserved.

Revenue Canada and dependent status

In response to the invitation of the Honourable Minister for National Revenue to the community to appraise him of our viewpoint, Professor John Kurien of McGill university, Montreal (a member of our community) has written a paper on the subject. He has analysed therein our tradition and necessity as such of sending remittance to our dependents in India and other countries in the sub-continent and has argued against the departmental officers' theory of allowing deduction on the basis of "below-poverty level" economic standard of the country of our dependents. It is understood that the matter has been reviewed favourably and old cases are being re-opened, on representations, for refunds. The Canadian Human Rights Commission has also advised that appeals should be filed by individuals to Revenue Canada for reconsideration.

Energy panel set up

New Delhi (IBS) - A new cabinet committee on energy problems has been set up with the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi as its chairman. A committee of secretaries headed by the cabinet secretary N.K. Mukherjee has also been set up to assist the cabinet committee.

R. Venkataraman, finance minister, Mr. P.C. Sethi, Works and Housing Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Information and Broadcasting Minister, Ghani Khan Choudhary, Coal Minister, Energy and Irrigation Chief, and Kamalapathi Tripathi, Railways Minister are all part of the committee.

Urs to lead delegation

Bangalore, Feb. 19 (UNI) - A seven-member goodwill delegation of intellectuals, journalists and representatives of workers and peasants led by Congress(U) President, Devraj Urs will shortly visit China.

A spokesman of the Karnataka unit of the Indo-China Friendship Association, which sponsored the visit told newsmen that the delegation's visit would foster greater understanding between the people of India and China and strengthen the forces of peace and friendship in the sub-continent.

Airport terminal delayed

New Delhi (IBS) - The already delayed construction of the new international terminals at Delhi and Madras airports, and the second phase of the new terminal at Bombay, is likely to be delayed by another year.

The Planning Commission has stated that new instructions are likely to be handed out by the Cabinet at any day and the axe would probably fall heavy on these projects, with aviation having been given the lowest priority.

The Delhi project, conceived in 1972, and revised in 1978, is estimated to cost $300 million, and the Madras project $45 million. The Bombay project's tree modules is estimated at $80 million apiece.

The International Airports Authority, entrusted with the development of the four airports in the coudntry is working on a project for the Calcutta airport.

Winners of essay competition

NACOI INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD [IYC] PROJECT ESSAY COMPETITION.

The following entries of the children have been selected for the award of first three prizes:

1. Thomas Ooman (Montral) $100.00 Age 13 years.

2. Premila Abraham (Fredericton, N.B.) $50.00

3. Gita Sud (Manitoba) $25.00 - Age 9 years.

They were elected

Khalsa Diwan Society; Vancouver

President: Mr. Bikram Singh Dhillon
Secretary: Mr. Daljit Singh Sandhu
Treasurer: Mr. Hardial Singh Johl

Akali Singh Sikh Society; Vancouver

Chairman: Mr. Sadhu Singh Dhesi
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Worksho

Federation of Indian Asso tions, Inc. is a registered n profit, charitable and educatio organization set up to coordin various services to the Ind community. There are m issues concerning the commu which require elaborate disc sion and immediate attention.

The Federation realizing needs of the community has up different sub-committees carry out various functions. C such sub-committee is the com ittee on Civic and Commu Affairs which deals with the to day problems of the commu with the help of the mem organizations. As is known, th has been a heavy influx of Ind immigrants to this country in last two decades. With this he influx have come to the fore m pressing issues concerning community as a whole.

To discuss some of the le aspects and to provide infor tion thereon the Civic and C munity Affairs Committee decided to hold a works

Scientists c

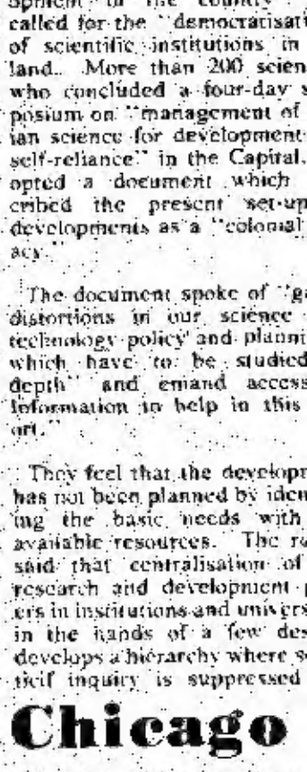
New Delhi (IBS) - Scientists h hit out at the system of "de opment in the country". called for the "democratisat of scientific institutions in land. More than 200 scien who concluded a four-day s posium on "management of ian science for development self-reliance" in the Capital, opted a document which cribed the present set-up developments as a "colonial acy".

The document spoke of "g distortions in our science technology policy and planni which have to be studied depth" and emand access information to help in this ort.

They feel that the develop has not been planned by iden ing the basic needs with available resources. The r said that centralisation of research and development ers in institutions and univers in the hands of a few des develops a hierarchy where s tific inquiry is suppressed

Chicago

A delegation team repres the "INDO-AMERICAN D CRATIC ORGANIZATION invited by the Chicago M Jane Byrne on Wednesday, ruary 6, 1980. Represent met with the mayor for mor half an hour and discusse various issues affecting C Chicago and also the issu Community interests. Thi



From L to R: T. T
Ranjit Ganguly, Babubh

Workshop to be held

Federation of Indian Associations, Inc. is a registered non-profit, charitable and educational organization set up to coordinate various services to the Indian community. There are many issues concerning the community which require elaborate discussion and immediate attention.

The Federation realizing the needs of the community has set up different sub-committees to carry on various functions. One such sub-committee is the committee on Civic and Community Affairs which deals with the day to day problems of the community with the help of the member organizations. As is known, there has been a heavy influx of Indian immigrants to this country in the last two decades. With this heavy influx have come to the fore many pressing issues concerning our community as a whole.

To discuss some of the legal aspects and to provide information thereon the Civic and Community Affairs Committee has decided to hold a workshop covering two important topics namely: (1) Wills & Estate Planning and (2) Real Estate. The workshop will be held on Saturday, March 15, 1980 from 2 to 5 pm., at the School of International Affairs, 15th Floor, Columbia University, 116th Street, Amsterdam Avenue, New York City. The workshop will be in two sessions which will be addressed by five panelists namely, John Peri Jr., Arthur Tauscher, K. Vempaty, M. Phulwani and Ms. Alison Friel. There will also be a question-answer session. Admission is free. Members of the Indian community are requested to avail themselves of this opportunity. For further information, readers are requested to contact the Committee Chairman Arun Kantharia at 201-743-1779 or the Federation at 212-866-4623.

Arun Kantharia (Chairperson)
(201) 734-1779,

535 W. 111St. #42, New York, N.Y.
10025, U.S.A.

Scientists critical

New Delhi (IBS) - Scientists have hit out at the system of "development in the country" and called for the "democratisation" of scientific institutions in the land. More than 200 scientists who concluded a four-day symposium on "management of Indian science for development and self-reliance" in the Capital, adopted a document which described the present set-up of developments as a "colonial legacy".

The document spoke of "grave distortions in our science and technology policy and planning" which have to be studied in depth" and demand access to information to help in this effort.

They feel that the development has not been planned by identifying the basic needs with the available resources. The report said that centralisation of the research and development powers in institutions and universities in the hands of a few despots develops a hierarchy where scientific inquiry is suppressed and creativity discouraged.

The resolution demanded certain priority areas for projects like the popularisation of science among people and the integration of medical systems in the country and research on solar energy with indigenous technology.

Penang cable

New Delhi (IBS) - The first phase of the submarine telephone cable, connecting Madras and Penang will be ready by late 1980.

Part of the Commonwealth Cable System, it will provide some 480 circuits between India and Malaysia - covering a distance of 1,350 nautical miles.

The system will have some of the most sophisticated gimmicks incorporated in it, including 173 repeaters and 11 equalisers to boost the signals. Round the clock checks will be kept to maintain the set up and check faults from developing.

Election costs

New Delhi (IBS) - The recently concluded Lok Sabha elections cost the public exchequer $65 million, P. Shiv Shankar, Union Law Minister, told the Rajya Sabha.

Of this, revision of the lectoral rolls alone involved an expenditure of $14 million while the balance was spent on conducting the poll.

Shankar reported that some 58 incidents of booth-capturing were reported.

Bottlenecks in holding free and fair elections and steps to remove them would be discussed here shortly.

King Kothi is hospital

New Delhi (IBS) - The spacious King Kothi palace, from where the late Nizam Osman Ali Khan ruled the former State of Hyderabad before it was merged into the Indian Union, has been converted into a full-fledged general government hospital.

The palace, situated in the heart of the city, had been bought for $10,000. It will initially have 100 beds and will later be expanded to accommodate 360 beds. Total costs will work out to $6 million.

The government, it seems, also proposes to acquire the fabulous Falaknama palace, also owned by the late Nizam, to convert it into a medical centre for post graduates.

Built in the 19th century, the King Kothi palace was constructed by a private citizen, Kamal Khan, who gifted it to the late Nizam when the monarch appreciated the grandeur of the palace.

ENGINEERING TEAM FOR USA

New Delhi (IBS) - A top-level engineering industry delegation will visit the USA later this year for identifying areas where the industry in both countries could work together.

The delegation which will be sponsored by the Association of Indian Engineering Industry, feels that there are several spheres where the two countries could cooperate.

Chicago Indians meet mayor

A delegation team representing the "INDO-AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION" was invited by the Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne on Wednesday, February 6, 1980. Representatives met with the mayor for more than half an hour and discussed the various issues affecting City of Chicago and also the issues of Community interests. This new organization is in the process of being formed with the participation of various community members of Indic origin who have already become U.S. Citizens or have applied for citizenship or are potential U.S. Citizens. The delegation team was headed by Mr. Ranjit Ganguly.

Those who are interested in joining this organization or interested in participating in various activities of the organization, please call any one of the following representatives:

Andy Thacker 261-6773, Phillip Kalayil 743-3986, Babubhai Contractor 725-8047, Tiru Patalat Tella 920-0030, Ranjit Ganguly 529-9791.

From L to R: T. Tella, Phillip Kalayil, Mayor Jane Byrne, Ranjit Ganguly, Babubhai Contractor, Andy Thacker.

Immigration and racism

Toronto, Feb. 24 - A Vancouver newspaper columnist will tell the Couchiching Institute conference in Toronto today that Canadian liberals are using their own type of terror tactics to stifle debate on this country's immigration policies.

In the text of his speech, Douglas Collins says Canada is heading toward disaster over immigration, but academics, politicians and journalists have been stunned into silence, because they're deathly afraid of being dubbed racist.

"(U.S. Senator Joseph) McCarthy in the 50s never had more success in silencing academics on politics (by calling them Communists), for instance, than the liberal gurus of today have in silencing them on important racial issues that face this country," the columnist says.

Mr. Collins has been criticized by several minority group leaders in Toronto, who say he has right-wing racist views.

They have said he should not have been allowed to address the two-day conference's final session, called Canada's Options for the Eighties, along with Kim Abbott, former director of the Canadian Immigration Services.

In the speech text, Mr. Collins says that minority racism means the furthering of one's own group at the expense of the host community.

"And it has some quite ugly faces," he adds. "One of those faces was evident when the black brothers screamed for blood after the death of Albert Johnson. And, if Johnson had been a white who died in exactly the same circumstances - whatever those circumstances were - we would have heard nothing more."

Mr. Collins is the author of a book titled Immigration: The Destruction of English Canada.

The Toronto minority group leaders say the institute, formerly known as the Canadian Institute on Public Affairs, has organized the conference in a way that is "inherently racist" and they have organized a counter-conference of their own in protest.

They also have asked several of the liberal speakers at the conference to withdraw.

[The Globe & Mail].

Jail for racist

Toronto, Feb. 24 - John Ross Taylor, the leader of the Western Guard party, has been sentenced to one year in jail and his movement has been fined $5,000 for disseminating anti-Jewish propaganda in violation of a decision by a human rights tribunal that has the force of a Federal Court of Canada order.

The sentence and the fine, maximums for a contempt of court conviction, are suspended on condition that Mr. Taylor and his associates respect the order. Costs were awarded to the federal Human Rights Commission if it so desires; otherwise, the Western Guard will be billed for the trial.

Mr. Taylor appeared before the Federal Court this week charged with being in contempt of a court order forbidding him to use the telephone to disseminate recorded anti-Jewish messages. Mr. Justice Jean Dube gave his written decision yesterday.

"It's what I expected. I realized there's nothing they could do but find me guilty," said Mr. Taylor who, in his defence, had questioned the legality of the order.

Mr. Taylor said yesterday he was not out to become a martyr and would obey the order until his appeal is heard.

He also said the movement would have no problem raising the money to pay the fine if it becomes necessary. He would not say what the party's strength is, but gave the impression it is formidable.

"They look at us and they don't know how extensive we are. We go on the strawberry system: A shoot goes out and then it fends for itself. We never give figures, we can't," he said.

According to Human Rights Commission lawyer Russell Juriansz, if Mr. Taylor or the Western Guard breach the order again, "we file an affidavit and automatically the suspension would be lifted."

[The Globe & Mail]

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Indian sculptures for Halifax

Ottawa, Canada: The National Gallery of Canada is sending members from its staff "on tour" during 1980, the 100th anniversary of the National Gallery of Canada, to highlight the exhibitions loaned to other public art galleries across Canada.

Andre Fortin, Workshop Supervisor at the National Gallery, will be on hand for the installation of **Brahma and Buddha**, an exhibition of 31 Indian sculptures from the fourth to tenth centuries at Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery, Halifax in March. A recent gift to the National Gallery by Max Tanenbaum, these sculptures weigh an average of three hundred pounds each, yet are carved with the greatest intricacy.

Mr. Fortin will supervise the installation of these recent additions to the collections from the National Gallery. The sculptures require crates and cases specially designed for purposes of the tour of the exhibition. After Halifax, the exhibition will move to Edmonton, Saskatoon and London, Ontario. Also, in mid-March Brian Stewart, Librarian/Archivist in the Gallery's Department of Prints and Drawings and organizer of the exhibition **Prints of the Impressionists**, will talk about the prints in this exhibition, which will then be on view at the Confederation Arts Centre Gallery in Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Indian to chair

An International Symposium on Fine Particles Processing will be held at the 109th annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers at Las Vegas on February 24-26, 1980. Dr. P. Somasundaran, Professor of Mineral Engineering at Columbia University is the chairman of this symposium which consists of about 100 papers, presented by authors from 25 countries.

This is the first International Symposium of Fine Particles Processing. Work on this symposium was started two years back with the formation of an International Advisory Committee with representatives from eleven countries and headed by Dr. Somasundaran. Commenting on the symposium, Somasundaran said, "it is of great importance in view of the tremendous problems facing us currently in producing and beneficiating mineral fines." "Also the future source of metals and materials are in the minutely dispersed form and we need the technology to treat such fine material," he added.

DR. SOMASUNDARAN

Somasundaran is recently appointed as the editor-in-chief of "Colloids and Surfaces", an international journal devoted to the application and principles of colloid and interface science. It is published quarterly by Elsevier Scientific Publishing Co., Amsterdam.

Last month, Somasundaran was also appointed, as a member of U.S. Deparment of Interior Review Panel under Title III, State Mining and Mineral Resource and Research Institutes, of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

GIANI AJMER SINGH DEAD

Amritsar, (UNI) - Akali Dal office secretary and SPGC Member Giani Ajmer Singh died following a heart attack. He was 60.

He is survived by two sons and a daughter.

Minorities and Metro Toronto police

Probhat Raha, Chairperson of Toronto Chapter of NACOI participated at a meeting of Metro Toronto Police Commission on November 27, 1979, in which a number of groups presented their viewpoints on police discrimination and brought resolutions for practical implementation of Cardinal Carter's recommendations for improving the relations between visible minority groups and Metro Police.

As a follow-up of Cardinal Carter's recommendations, Roy McMurtry has a Bill in the provincial legislature for appointing a Citizen's Review Committee to investigate complaints against the police.

On December 13, 1979, a group of visible minority representation headed by Black Coalition Leader, Dr. Wilson Head, Chairman of Global Alliance for Race Relations met Michael Cassidy and his N.D.P. caucus to register their protest against the character of Mr. McMurtry's review committee. They demanded visible minority representation in the committee. P. Raha (NACOI), A. Dharmalingam (VARR) and R. Panda of IAAS represented the South Asian community. Regular caucus meetings are scheduled in future with NDP, PC and Liberal provincial parties to voice and assert visible minority interests.

SHAKESPEARE

The ocean human, thou, o Shakespeare,
Hast well compassed. The genii of thine
Empire in recesses rare, ah, hear
The Master's mighty voice, and speed to line
Along to spell the human wonder. Ahoy,
Acclaim the voyageurs, anon, on the seas,
Many a thrilling shore and isle of joy
Voicing the many-mouthed harmonies.
Thy quill hath loosed. And lives ever thy
Magic world; ah, livelier
Than life-lovelier - Hamlet, Othello, Shy
Ophelia, Macbeth, Falstaff, bereft Lear,
Romeo, Juliet, Shylock, Portia - why,
Polonius, ho, and more that will not die!

K.V.A.

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KITCH

By Pranati

Next to the enjoyme
comes the preparation
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delicious mango jam.

MANGO JAM

5 (8 oz. each) free
glasses with tight-fitt
about 6 medium size
5 cups sugar
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. ascorbic-acid
1 (1¾ oz) package fr
¾ cup water.

Prepare containers.
nicks or sharp edges.
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on dish rack or clean
in automatic dishwa
dishwasher until read
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masher, thoroughly
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The panel depict
seated cross, legge
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KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

Next to the enjoyment of biting into a fresh, juicy ripe mango, comes the preparation of mango for breakfast jam. Fresh ripe mangoes will soon appear in our supermarkets or produce farm markets; so now is the time to start thinking about freezing and preserving them so that this luxury tropical fruit will be available all year round. Freezing is a quick, convenient, and easy method of preserving foods. When frozen correctly, foods retain good color, flavor, and texture. Freezer jams like this one are so easy to make - and they retain every bit of fresh flavor because the fruit is never cooked. In this nutrition - conscious age, we ought to be aware that a quick orange juice and coffee is not enough to start the day. Breakfast ends the longest period between meals, so we need good, hearty food. But there are still some people that do not like the idea of eating in the morning. That's why breakfast food should be quick and should taste good - so good that even the most dedicated breakdfast-hater can't resist it. Planning is needed if you want to serve quick and tasty meals early in the morning. But since breakfast is such an important meal, why don't you bake some oatmeal or bran muffins and prepare some delicious jams while you have the time? The only thing that worries me about any jam recipe is that it requires a high percentage of sugar. But really you don't need that much, and nutritious food does little good unless it is eaten.

Cereals or whole grain breads are good breakfast foods. They have a good carbohydrate and protein content and a small amount of fat. Many people have the mistaken idea that the only contribution of bread to the daily diet is calories. Not so! Bread is nutritious. Whole grain and enriched bread or muffins are important sources of energy, several B vitamins and iron. Canada's Food Guide recommends three to five servings daily from the bread and cereal group. The breakfast calorie intake is burned off by our normal activities of work far more efficiently than are the intakes from lunch and dinner. But if breakfast is a difficult meal because of a timing problem, just brown your toast or warm your muffin and serve with delicious mango jam while you make coffee.

MANGO JAM

5 (8 oz. each) freezer-safe, dishwasher-safe containers or jelly glasses with tight-fitting lids
about 6 medium size fully ripened mangoes
5 cups sugar
2 tbsp. lemon juice
½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. ascorbic-acid mixture for fruit
1 (1¾ oz) package fruit pectin
¾ cup water.

Prepare containers: Check them to be sure there are no cracks, nicks or sharp edges. Wash containers and lids in hot soapy water; rinse. Carefully and slowly pour boiling water inside and out; invert on dish rack or clean towel, away from draft, to drain dry. Or, wash in automatic dishwasher with very hot rinse cycle and leave in dishwasher until ready to fill. Peel, pit and cut mangoes into thin slices to make 2¼ cups of fruit; place in large bowl. With potato masher, thoroughly cursh mangoes. With rubber spatula, stir in sugar, lemon juice, salt and ascorbic-acid (adding ascorbic acid prvents fruit from darkening during storage) mixture until thoroughly mixed. Let mixture stand 10 minutes so sugar dissolves.

Pectin is what makes jam jell. Be sure to use the powdered with this recipe: liquid pectin reacts differently. (Stir in pectin thoroughly, but don't whip mixture-foan may form, spoil jam's appearance.) In 1 quart saucepan over medium heat, heat fruit pectin and water to bioling; boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Stir pectin mixture into fruit, continue stirring 3 minutes (no less!) A few sugar crystals will remain. With 1 cup liquid measuring cup, pour mango mixture into containers to ½ inch from top; cover with lids. Let stand at room temperature for 24 hours or until set. Freeze to use within one year. Or, store in refrigerator for use within 3 weeks. Makes about five 8 oz. jars.

Kerosene production halted

New Delhi (IBS) - The public sector Gauhati refinery comes to a halt as far as the production of kerosene oil is concerned, with the present agitation by Assamese against the intrusion of foreign nationals continuing. Round the clock picketing outside the installations at Narengi continues to prevent the supply of crude and other products to get to regions outside the state.

With the stoppage of crude handling in the refinery since February 6, the production of high-speed diesel has come to a halt. The present suspension of oil production would further plunge the entire north-east sector into an acute shortage belt.

Oil stock drying up

New Delhi (IBS) - The Petroleum and Chemicals Minister, P.C. Sethi, stated once the situation in Assam returned to normal, the shortage of petroleum products would end in a month.

Due to this, the closing of Barauni, Gauhati and Bongaigaon refineries fed by crude from Assam; the north-eastern region and north Bengal were virtually starved of petroleum products. The stocks would hardly last for the next three days.

Mr. Sethi said that if the disruption of supply of petroleum from Assam refineries continued, it would have serious repercussions on almost every industry and ultimately on the national economy.

Sculpture found

Chandigarh, Feb. 25 (UNI) - The Haryana Archaeology Department recently found a rare sculpture in grey stone belonging to the Gandharva period at Jhajra in Rohtak district of Haryana.

The panel depicts the Buddha seated cross legged on a lotus pedestal in "Vyakhyana Mudra" which places the panel in the first century A.D.

Below his lotus pedestal are two devotees seated, with folded hands on either side. According to the custom of the Gandharva school of art, the rich turban of the one standing to the right of the Buddha designates Indra.

Swedish loan

New Delhi (IBS) - Sweden will provide financial assistance of $18 million to India's national programme for non-formal education. An agreement to this effect was signed by L. Fionmark, Swedish Abassador and P. Sababayagam, Union Education Secretary.

The aid, which will be provided through the Swedish international development authority will be used for procurement of paper for production of educational material. Instailments will be paid between January 1980 and June 1984.

Sanctuary in Vindhyas

Shivpuri (Madhya Pradesh), Feb. 25 (UNI) - The wild animals in the low hills of the Vindhyas near here were once protected to be shot only by the Maharaja and his guests. But things have since been changing.

In 1958, the royal pleasure hunt was turned into a National Park to protect the dwindling wild life.

Park Director P K Nayak told UNI that a census carried out last year showed that the park had four tigers, eight panthers, 24 bears, hundreds of cheetals, sambhars, and other animals. There were seventeen crocodiles in the Sakhya lake covering 290 hectares.

Unlike many other national parks, this one is accessible all the year round. A visitor can drive through the forest on all-weather roads over a series of super imposed terraces, varying in height between 360 and 480 metres from the sea level, and see the animals if lucky enough.

Royal suit maker

New Delhi (IBS) - An Indian tailor, sporting the name "Sam" said that he had tailored suits for Britain's Duke of Kent.

Sam, a soft-spoken man in his 50's, said that he refused to speak much on the matter, nor would he allow photographs of his little shop for publicity. The shop, which has photographs of the premier of Australia, Mr. Malcolm Fraser and numerous British military figures, among them the Commander of British force in Hong Kong, Sir Roy Redgrave, is a little establishment in the heart of the teeming metropolis.

Sam, however, refused to disclose how many suits he had tailored for the Duke of Kent, who had himself been criticised for purchasing cut-price textile and suits from Hong-Kong, while the home market was suffering against overseas competition.

Other tailors in Hong Kong said that Sam's was one of 97 establishments which was recommended by the Hong Kong tourist association, as a family concern. The tailors claimed that Sam was actually a pseadonum, for Narain J. Melwani who is of Indian origin. Sam, is assisted in his job by his own two sons, Manu and Sham. Everyone, nowever, calls him and his shop, "Sam".

CHIEF OF ECONOMIC CO-ORDINATION

New Delhi (IBS) - The Government has directed Mr. R. Tirumalai, secretary attached to the Cabinet secretariat to be in charge of economic co-ordination. Mr. Tirumalai has been hitherto heading a cell set up by the Janata Government to monitor prices, production and movement of essential commodities.

Afghan stand explained

P.V. Narasimha Rao

New Delhi (IBS) - Departing from Mrs. Gandhi's earlier statement which clearly implied that she supported or excused Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao said that India is opposed to the presence of Russian troops in foreign soil - or foreign troops and bases in any country.

He said India hopes that the people of Afghanistan will be allowed to resolve their internal problems without outside interference, and that Moscow would soon withdraw its forces currently having a stranglehold on that landlocked country.

He said "there is no question of India's endorsing the Soviet action in Afghanistan when he was questioned in the House.

But he failed to state whether India had conveyed its displeasure to Moscow at Soviet troops in another country. India has not officially done so as yet, hence his inability to say so. He spent more time and words expressing concern at American arms reaching Pakistan.

President Reddy, addressing both houses of Parliament, expressed grave concern at developments in Afghanistan (even as Soviet troops and tanks started across the border into Pakistan). He said "a dangerous situation" had been brought for India and the entire region.

He added that Soviet troops entering Afghanistan had brought about a re-emergence of the cold war, turning countries in the region into power rivals which is unacceptable and unhealthy.

But even the President did not express the wish that the Indira Gandhi government convey disapproval or condemnation to Moscow, which, with Mr. Rao's permission, is considered not only significant, but also spineless.

No date for Russian withdrawal

New Delhi (IBS) - India and the USSR both adopted divergent positions on the question of Afghanistan, and talks between the Indian Government and visiting Soviet Minister, Andrei Gromyko have failed to throw up any solution to the problem.

India had asked the USSR to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan so that the tension prevailing in the area is defused. However, Mr. Gromyko had given no indication that the Soviets would pull out by any fixed date.

This is the first time in 25 years that the two Asiatic powers have differed on a major international issue. The Indian Government had failed to convince the USSR that it should pull out of Afghanistan as part of the Soviets contributing towards achieving normalcy. Gromyko, on the other hand failed to convince the Indians that his country's intervention in Afghanistan was justified.

Mr. Gromyko, in turn reportedly asked Pakistan to give effective guarntee that it would stop intrusions into Afghanistan territory from its side. Speaking at the return dinner he hosted for the Indian Foreign Minister, Mr. Gromyko said: "The USSR believes that if Pakistan wants to live in peace and friendship with Afghanistan, it should cease intrusions into Afghan territory from its side."

Mr. Gromyko launched a scathing attack on Pakistan warning that if it fell in line with imperialist manoeuvers it would "undermine its position as an independent state." He accused the USA of trying to convert Pakistan into a hot bed of tension and a springboard for further escalation of aggression against Afghanistan.

India to sell jet fighters

New Delhi (IBS) - Hindustan Aeronautics, the public sector manufacturing company that operated, chiefly on behalf of the Indian Air Force, is planning to sell jet fighters and helicopters to other countries.

The aircraft proposed to be sold are not meant for use in major offensive operations although they can finally be adapted for that purpose. The object in selling them is to train counter-insurgency problems in countries where they are needed.

Malaysia, it is learnt, has made a bid to purchase the 'Kiran' aircraft. Manufactured in Bangalore and carrying two sets of 7.62 MM guns, the Kiran can also load on 250 kg bombs or rockets. It is thought that several countries would like to purchase such aircraft from India rather than suppliers in the USA or USSR.

HAL also hopes to sell helicopters to these countries.

Undertrial repents

New Delhi, Feb. 29 (UNI) - Chief metropolitan magistrate K Verma took no action agains an undertrial who threw a shoe at him in the open court.

"He will repent his action," Mr. Verma observed.

He asked the undertrial, Ramesh; "Why did you behave in this manner? What harm have I done to you."

Ramesh kept quiet.

Mr. Verma directed police not to take any action against the undertrial for the incident.

Following the directive, Ramesh hit his head against the dais on which the magistrate was seated.

INDIAN HISTORIAN DIES AT 92

New Delhi (IBS) - The doyen of Indian history, Dr. Ramesh Chandra Majumdar, died in Calcutta February 11 at the age of 92. He had been ailing for two months preceding his death.

He died at the home of his daughter.

Dr Majumdar who was an authority on the Moghal era

CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Correspondence invited from a girl for Punjabi divorcee Sikh boy, 30, studying in electronics technology. Caste no bar. M-1672, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for exceptionally beautiful, intelligent, 5'-6" Sikh girl, B.A.B.Ed, presently in India, Sister university professor in Canada. M-1673, The Canadian India Times.

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Ramgarhia match wanted for my brother, 25, resident in GERMANY. I am well settled here. Please send particulars with girl's returnable photograph to HARRY BHAMRA, Box 642 FERNIE (B.C) Tel: 604-423-6033.

Correspondence invited from professional gentlemen for a youthful Hindu Punjabi widow in early 40's. Canadian citizen. Both children from previous marriage settled. 41 Wallford Way, Ottawa.

Correspondence invited from U.S. or Canadian immigrant or citizen females for Hindu Vaish, 38, 5'-9", divorced male. Lived in Germany for 12 years presently in India. Brothers well settled in U.S. and Canada. No bars. Early marriage. Interested parties please contact: (403) 523-3561.

Male divorced, kind, sincere and understanding, well employed in Toronto, Canadian citizen of Indian origin seeks suitable match. Reply with photograph and details M-1675, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited for a divorced beautiful lady 39. Permanent resident in States has son age 11. Particulars available in Ottawa. M-1676, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a divorced 33, fair, sweet Punjabi girl. Has daughter 7. Presently helping father with business in India. Will be visiting Canada shortly. Relatives well settled in Europe and Canada. For details please contact M-1677, The Canadian India Times.

Match for a girl, 27, M.A., B.Ed (India), presently on a visit in Canada. Reply M-1659, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a tall handsome Sikh boy, 27, final year engineering student in Canada. Caste no bar. Write M-1668, The Canadian India Times.

Uncle seeking suitably qualified match (29-32) for good-looking Bengali Kayastha girl, 25, interior designer, resident in Montreal. Correspond at 3485 Durocher.

Suitable match preferably in Canada for an innocently divorced Rajput girl, 25, sweet, homely, attractive, M.A. Economics working in States. Caste no bar. Write M-1598, The Canadian India Times.

Bhajanlal's jump

New Delhi (IBS) - Haryana Chief Minister Bhajan Lal had, for four days, met and talked with some 40 MLAs, coaxing them to join him in linking up with Mrs. Gandhi's Congress-I, yet he ignored this well known truth in stating, shame-facedly, that the decision to betray the Janata and join the ruling Congress-I was not his, but that of an overwhelming majority of others.

He, unblinkingly, added, "it was a bold and historical move which will go a long way in accelerating the pace of development of the State".

Three ministers, belonging to the Jana Sangh faction of the Janata Party in the State, handed in their resignations, as demanded by Bhajan Lal, and their resignations were accepted by the Governor.

Meanwhile, in Rajasthan the process of moving toward the Congress-I - an example set by Haryana and Maharashtra - was begun by six legislators defecting to Mrs. Gandhi. A Congress-I office bearer in the State told a press conference that "this is just the first installment."

Defence career prospects

New Delhi (IBS) - The Government has approved of a scheme to improve the careers of officers in the Defence services; especially those of the rank between Major to Brigadier, and their counterparts in the Navy and Air Force.

The Government has proposed a 20 per cent improvement for these officers, which includes a selection pay grade in these ranks. Those holding the rank of Lt. Colonel, Wing Commanders and so on in the forces, would benefit with a 10 per cent improvement.

Proposals to improve the conditions of staff serving in capacities of Brigadier and above with its corresponding designations in the Navy and Air Force will also be improved should the Government approve of the plan being studied right now.

Gasahol feasible

New Delhi (IBs) - The director of Central Tuber Corps Research Institute (CTCRI) at Trivandrum, Dr. N. Hrishi, has reaffirmed his statement that power alcohol from the cassava produced by the institute for use as automobile fuel, has the requisite strength of over 96 per cent.

Dr. Hrishi, denied the charge of some scientists that the alcohol used by the institute for its "gashol" experiments was only 84 per cent pure. He claimed that this was a charge made out of frustration by some disgruntled factions.

The current requirement of petrol for automobiles and other internal combustion engines in the country has been assessed as 2,117 million litres. If this could be blended with 20 per cent petrol, the consumption of petrol could be reduced to 1,693 million litres.

RAJ KJAPOOR HONOURED

Chandigarh, Feb. 25 (UNI) - The Punjab Government has decided to honour two film-makers from the state, Raj Kapoor and Rajinder Singh Bedi.

The jury for the Punjab State Film Awards had earlier decided to give a posthumous award to S. Sukhdev, an internationally known film producer.

Kerala amnesty to Naxalites

Trivandrum, Feb. 27 (UNI) - The Kerala Government decided to release Naxalite prisoners who had completed eight years imprisonment, including remission.

Briefing newsmen after a cabinet meeting, Chief Minister E K Nayanar said the government decided to extend the general amnesty given to other prisoners to Naxalites who had completed eight years in jail.

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